

Hopkins

February 4, 2013

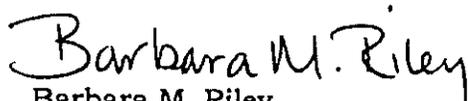
To Whom It may Concern,

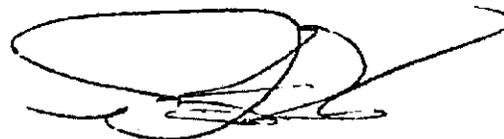
We are writing as representatives of Hopkins School, an independent school located at 986 Forest Road and a "resident" in the Westville section of New Haven since 1925. The purpose of this letter is to express our unqualified support of Bill 5279, submitted by State Representative Pat Dillon and scheduled to be considered beginning on February 4, 2013. Bill 5279 is, as you know, designed to remedy or at least ameliorate the flooding conditions that interfere with traffic flow on Forest Road (Connecticut State Highway 122) and, more importantly, create hazardous conditions whenever the area experiences heavy rain.

Although Forest Road is located in a residential neighborhood, this two-lane state road serves as a primary artery between I-95 commuters and their workplaces in New Haven. Our concern is for our Forest Road neighbors as well as the drivers who use Forest Road – some of them the young drivers who attend Hopkins School. For, when the Forest Road floods – and it does, chronically – the lives of Connecticut residents, many of them children, are imperiled.

We appreciate the many competing demands there are on the State's already constricted budget. However, in this case, one where there seems to be a clear solution (the expansion of a antiquated and undersized storm water system), we request that the Commission on Transportation consider Bill 5279 most carefully, as we believe the proposed repairs to Forest Road will have a significant and most positive impact on the safety – and, therefore – lives of a significant number of Connecticut residents.

Sincerely,


Barbara M. Riley
Head of School



David E. Baxter
Chief Financial and Operating Officer