

Same Day Dry Cleaning
Same Day Shirt Laundry
Waterbury's Largest Tailoring Facility
Commercial and Corporate Accounts Welcome

Mar-Vic Cleaners, Inc.
dba Mar-Vic Cleaners & Tailors
"Waterbury's Leading Cleaners & Tailors"
186 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
(203) 754-3952
(203) 574-0815 fax

Spoken

March 9, 2013

Senator Musto and Representative Jutila, Co-Chair, and members of the G.A.E. Committee
Government Administrations and Elections Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Hartford, Connecticut

Re: Bill 773

The purpose of my letter is to comment on the above referenced bill. I am the owner of a small business which has enjoyed two generations of business in Downtown Waterbury. We are one of the few companies that have experienced reasonable growth in spite of a deteriorating business climate in our Core City. My business is not generally dependent on foot traffic; however the business failure rate in our downtown can be largely attributed to the lack of activity.

As you may know, Waterbury's Core City has magnificent architecture, as does all the cities in Connecticut. It represents a visual narrative of its proud history. We believe that as the core City goes, so too does the City at large. Bill 773 is not asking for a financial subsidy or some new scheme for urban renewal. Simply stated, Bill 773 would encourage private real estate development in the Core City which in turn would help the tax base of Waterbury and all troubled Connecticut cities with populations over 100,000.

By locating State Agencies in the core business district of larger municipalities, it will create a great incentive for both related and unrelated companies to locate in the same area. In my 57 years in Downtown Waterbury I have seen the vitality of the City lost to decay. Bill 773 would give municipalities an option that would clearly help the resurrection of our proud Cities. This legislation costs nothing but is a giant step in the right direction.

There is one other critical point to this legislation. If City fathers choose not to have State agencies located in City centers they have the option to designate other locations within the City. The concept is simple and the results could very well be the seeds to returning our large Cities to their once proud heritage. This is not an end all solution, but a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Victor J. Buselli, President