



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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Testimony on rHB 5565 An Act Concerning The Minimum Budget Requirement

Dear Chairmen Stillman and Fleischmann, Ranking Members Boucher and Ackert, and distinguished members of the Education Committee:

I am writing with a suggested change to rHB 5565, which would make revisions to the Minimum Budget Requirement statutes. Currently a town/school districts can reduce their appropriation to not more than one-half of one percent under certain circumstances. I would recommend that the Committee increase that reduction to one percent.

The statutes provide for a narrow set of circumstances when a municipality can reduce its appropriation for education. Municipalities should be rewarded when achievable savings can be demonstrated through collaboration and cooperative agreements. This is a tool that we should have to help hold the growth on spending given that education is the largest part of a municipal budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Cecilia Buck-Taylor