City of Shelton Fire Department
Office of the Fire Chief

February 25th, 2015

State of Connecticut - Legislative Office
Appropriations Committee
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT. 06106

Appropriations Committee,

As the Chief of the Shelton Fire Department and representing the 277 all-volunteer firefighter membership of the Shelton Fire Department.

We strongly oppose **House Bill # 6824 "the budget bill".**

This proposed "budget bill" by Governor Malloy removes funding for the Regional Fire Training Schools. This funding is essential to ensuring that our firefighters are able to receive the training needed to provide services to their communities. Initial and ongoing training is necessary to protect the health and safety of the firefighters, and those whom which they serve. The training provided by the Regional Fire Schools allows both career and volunteer firefighters to obtain the necessary training close to their communities. This promotes further training and education, and thus a safer, more efficient firefighting force within the communities.

I appreciate your attention to ensuring that funding is fully restored to the State of Connecticut proposed budget supporting the Regional Fire Schools, and the training necessary for the men and women of the Connecticut Fire Service.

Thank you,

Francis T. Jones III
Fire Chief
Shelton Fire Department

(203) 924-1555 x 1337
(203) 892-5131 cell
F.jones@cityofshelton.org