



State of Connecticut

SENATE

SENATE MINORITY WHIP

SENATOR HENRI MARTIN
THIRTY-FIRST SENATE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
300 CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 3400
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
CAPITOL: (800) 842-1421
E-MAIL: Henri.Martin@cga.ct.gov
WEBSITE: www.SenatorHenriMartin.com

RANKING MEMBER
BANKS COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Sen. Hartley, Rep. Perone, and members of the Commerce Committee.

I am Sen. Henri Martin and I am testifying in favor of Proposed H.B. No. 5976 AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR THE THOMASTON OPERA HOUSE.

One of the towns I represent is Thomaston.

And on Main Street there is an historic landmark.

The Thomaston Opera House is a large brick Romanesque structure, built in 1885.

It was used as a venue for theatrical performances and social events until the 1930s, when it was converted for a time into a movie house.

It was closed down due to safety code violations in the 1960s, and underwent restoration, reopening with town offices on the first floor and the theater continuing on the upper floor.

The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

On a given night, you can see brilliant acting, listen to jazz music, or hear Big Band songs.

This is a gathering place. A cultural attraction.

It's a place which gives Thomaston a unique identity and character.

People take pride in the Thomaston Opera House.

I urge your consideration of this very worthy bill, and I know I speak for a great many people and small businesses in Thomaston and surrounding towns.

Best Regards,

Senator Henri Martin
31st District