

To the Honorable Members of the Finance Committee,

Testimony concerning S.B.946:

We, the undersigned, are opposed to SB946. This bill will have a devastating effect on Connecticut agriculture.

- +Agricultural Sustainability Account
- +Farmland Preservation Unit
- +Ag Viability and Farm Transition Grant programs
- +Connecticut Grown Program
- +CT Farmlink
- +The Seafood Advisory Council
- +The CT Farm Wine Development Council
- +The CT Food Policy Council

The above programs are necessary for the ongoing production of our local food supply

Dianne Aborn-Dairy Farmer, Ellington, CT

The dairy industry has profited from the Dairy Support Program since its inception. We have been able to keep up with recent production costs and make several long overdue repairs and improvements. PRESENTLY THE COST OF MILK PRODUCTION IS RISING and the price of milk is spiraling downward. We join other dairy producers in CT to implore you not to cut the Agricultural Sustainability Account or any other accounts effected by SB946.

Peter Charter-Beef Producer, Ellington,CT

As a past dairy farmer and now beef producer participating in various Farmer's Markets , I oppose any cuts proposed in SB946. Farmer.s Markets have given us an excellent outlet for our locally produced beef. The sweeping of the CT Grown program would effect us detrimentally and many other producers as well.

CT's deficit problem was not created in one year and thus cannot be solved in one year by sweeping CT's agricultural support and not budgeting additional support through 2017.

NOT EVERYONE FARMS

BUT EVERYONE EATS

Dianne Aborn, 860-944-3010

Peter Charter 860-490-7369 3/8/15