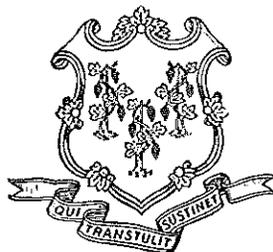


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**State of Connecticut**  
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*Vice Chair*  
Aging Committee  
Housing Committee  
Labor & Public Employees Committee  
*Member*  
Transportation Committee

Planning and Development Committee

March 18, 2015

LOB 1B

11:30 AM

In **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 1  
An Act Concerning Tax Fairness and Economic Development

Chairman Miller and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee, I would like to testify in strong support of Senate Bill 1, An Act Concerning Tax Fairness and Economic Development.

I want to begin my remarks by thanking Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney and Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff for their leadership on this important issue. Reforming our tax code, especially with respect to the property tax, is critical to improving Connecticut's economic landscape. And I want to express my gratitude to their joint leadership in spearheading this important conversation.

Senator Andrew Maynard and I both support Section 2 of the underlying bill that would reimburse the Town of Voluntown approximately \$60,000 in lost PILOT revenue related to Pachaug State Forest, which is the state's largest state park, encompassing approximately 24,000 acres.

In addition, I would also like to testify in support of Section 56 of the underlying bill that would amend any conveyance in fee-tail to fee simple. The committee will hear from two constituents of mine, Kathleen McCoy and Tony Good, about the trouble that they have encountered in trying to sell their late parents' home, which they both jointly inherited. This change in conveyance law will conform our statutes to other states and is supported by many of Connecticut's realtors.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 1. And I look forward to working with the members of this committee on this bill's passage.