SB969
Funding for Improvements in and around RHAM High School Area.

Dear Chairmen, Ranking Members, and esteemed Planning and Development Committee Members,

State assistance is greatly needed for this important safety project, for the RHAM Middle/High School complex. This facility is heavily used by the three towns of Andover, Hebron, and Marlborough as well as by other guests.

Route 316 is a main artery connecting the towns of Andover and Hebron, and crosses immediately in front of the two easterly curb cuts for this large regional school complex.

Since my tenure as state representative for 22 years, there has been a terrible history of accidents at the school and on Route 316:

- The tragedy of a teacher killed in the parking lot in 2012.
- Multiple students killed at the intersection of the parking lot and the state Route 316 (Wall St.)
- And the unthinkable horror of a mother driving just two cars behind, seeing her child killed in front of her....

Following the most recent accident at the school when a very popular middle school teacher died from the injuries sustained after being backed over by a parent, the school system took action. Multiple professionals have reviewed the site and recommended necessary corrective actions. These actions require significant funding for realigning and rebuilding this poorly designed traffic pattern for the parking lot/ drop off area.

This dangerous original design of the parking lot/pick up area was originally approved by state officials more than a dozen years ago. It is essential for the state to assist this regional school system that serves these small towns to realign and rebuild the parking lot areas for the safety of the entire region.

Pamela Z. Sawyer
Former State Representative, 1993-2015
Bolton, Andover, Hebron and Marlborough