

Senator Catherine Osten, Chair of the Planning & Development Committee
Representative Philip Miller Co-Chair

SB 970 An Act Concerning the Taxation of Golf Courses

I would like to register my opposition to SB 970 which would require municipalities to establish new classifications for golf courses. It appears that the assessments for golf courses would change from their current classification to that of open space land. East Granby has one private nine-hole golf course where the land is assessed for \$564,550. If the land was classified as open space, the assessment would be reduced approximately 50% and the corresponding taxes would be reduced by the same percentage. In this time of difficult State Budgets, many changes are proposed where the State would increase cost-sharing in things such as the Resident Trooper Program and the Regional Fire Academies. The potential result of these cost-sharing changes is a higher burden on resident property taxes. SB 970 would have the same effect by reducing the tax base and increasing the burden on residents.

Sincerely,

James M. Hayden
First Selectman, Town of East Granby

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