



TOWN OF GOSHEN

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ROBERT P. VALENTINE, FIRST SELECTMAN

**Testimony of:
Robert P. Valentine
First Selectman
Town of Goshen**

**Before
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
LOB Hearing Room 2A
Concerning SB 970**

February 27, 2015

Good morning Senator Oster, Representative Miller and members of the Planning & Development Committee. My name is Robert P. Valentine and I am the First Selectman of the town of Goshen.

I am here today to oppose SB 970 AN ACT CONCERNING TAXATION OF GOLF COURSES.

Were this bill to become law, many municipalities throughout Connecticut will lose substantial revenue. The town of Goshen alone would lose \$43,000 in revenue.

To change PA 490 to provide a private benefit (lower assessment, therefore lower taxes) when there is no corresponding public benefit, (land being left undeveloped and unimproved) would be wrong.

By their very nature, golf courses are highly developed for their purpose, and are businesses run for profit or pleasure of private corporations. As such, I see no reasonable public benefit for this substantial private benefit.

I urge this Committee to reject SB970.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



Robert P. Valentine
First Selectman