

City Of Torrington



ELINOR CARBONE
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Written Testimony of:
Elinor Carbone
Mayor
City of Torrington

Before the Appropriations Committee
February 27th, 2015

Senator Bye, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee, thank you for this opportunity to address you regarding Governor Malloy's proposal to close the Torrington office of the Department of Social Services.

I feel strongly that this proposal is misguided and would be detrimental to the hundreds of individuals who rely upon the in person services they receive at this office. The Torrington office of the Department of Social Services serves not only the City of Torrington, but also the entire Northwest corner of Connecticut.

By closing this office, many individuals would be forced to travel even greater lengths to receive the much needed support they require. Currently, the Northwest region is woefully underserved in terms of public transportation. With limited hours and an inadequate area of service, utilizing public transportation from Torrington and surrounding towns to Waterbury is a difficult task to say the least.

While I acknowledge that there are many services and programs that can be accessed via the internet, I would encourage committee members to remember that not all individuals have internet access or may not be comfortable applying for programs and services online. Having the skilled staff of the Department of Social Services available in person for questions or assistance is invaluable to many.

I thank the committee for your time and for your attention to this matter. I am hopeful that you will see the value in the Torrington office of the Department of Social Services and agree that there are many in this area that truly requires its services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elinor Carbone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elinor Carbone
Mayor