

Testimony to Appropriations Comm. for the March 2, 2015 Public Hearing on Hatchery Funding

I support keeping Kensington Hatchery operational and removing it from the list of cuts proposed in the governor's budget.

As a volunteer hunting safety instructor for the state of Connecticut I am involved with helping hundreds of CT residents obtain their hunting licenses every year. Seeing young kids spending time in the outdoors is so important, not only for hunting but fishing plays as big a role, introducing young kids to our states many lakes ponds and streams many of which are stocked with quality fish. The DEEP has done an excellent job maintaining a high level of quality fish in these many places, providing countless hours of outdoor activity for many and a high level of spending by the sportsman and women.

Shutting down this hatchery does very little to balance the budget, yet brings in millions in revenue to our state. Not only in the cost of fishing licenses (which went up in price not long ago) but in spending thought the state for fishing related expenditures.

Please remove this budget cut from the budget.

John Felciano  
39 Banner Rd  
Moodus, CT 06469