



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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**MEMBER**  
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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Good morning Senator Hartley, Representative Perone, Senator Crisco and Representative Vargas. I am State Representative Theresa Conroy and I am here to testify in SUPPORT of HB 5462 AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF THE TOWN OF SEYMOUR IN THE CONNECTICUT ANTIQUES TRAIL.

The Town of Seymour has been reinventing itself since the 1990s, when a local businessman, Joseph Migani, had a vision of creating a more vibrant downtown. With the help of a state grant Seymour has experienced a downtown renaissance, with many small businesses opening up stores. These beautiful, historic buildings became filled with several antiques businesses which have grown to number more than 10; the newest, Wildflour, opened just yesterday.

In 2013, Senator Kane introduced legislation to identify an antiques trail in Connecticut. This bill will allow Seymour, specifically the downtown orbit bordered by the Naugatuck River and Main Street, to be designated in the Connecticut Antique's Trail, which will help to attract new visitors and consumers to the downtown area.

First Saturday is a venue in downtown Seymour where there are special events to promote local businesses. In addition, every Tuesday night there is an auction and on Wednesday evenings, the All-American Valley General Store has local musicians perform. Our downtown renaissance is in its infancy – we need to keep nurturing it and promoting growth.

I ask that you support this legislation to recognize the town and local businesses for all that they have done to revitalize the downtown area and to help them to succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theresa Conroy".

Theresa Conroy, State Representative