



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
FINANCE REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

Testimony of Rep. Mary Mushinsky in Support of PHB 5555, An Act Concernin the
Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Educational Technology
Investment Account (PEGPETIA) Grant Program

Before the Energy and Technology Committee

February 19, 2015

Sen. Doyle, Rep. Reed and committee members:

This is a well-intended bill that would restore predictable PEGPETIA grant funding. However, the grant program is not dead, so it does not need reinstating. After a vigorous fight in Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee in 2014, we were successful in getting bond funds equivalent to the 2014 raid on the fund. They were released to the PEGPETIA account on Jan. 12, 2015. My town's public access TV immediately applied for one of the grants.

The risk is that the funds might be swept again for the 2016-17 biennium budget in the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, where fee-based funds are sometimes raided. On behalf of WPAA, our local cable access TV station, as well as a local business that produces educational videos, I wish to lend my support to any committee effort to block future PEGPETIA fund sweeps.

