



TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

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March 6, 2015

Senator John Fonfara, Co-Chair Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee
Representative Jeffrey Berger, Co-Chair Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee
Members of the Committee

Re: SB 946 An Act Concerning Revenue Items to Implement the Governor's Budget

I am writing in opposition to the Governor's proposal in Section 29 of this bill to partially sweep funds from the Community Investment Act from July 1, 2015 through January 1, 2016 and completely sweep all funds from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. If passed all Community Investment Act funds that are used for investments in historic preservation, farmland preservation/dairy support, open space preservation and affordable housing will be diverted to the general fund.

Here in the Town of Woodstock Community Investment Act funds have helped protect at least three of our farms, is slated to protect six more and has funded multiple historic preservation projects. The loss of funding will place the projects to protect six more of our farms in jeopardy.

We need Community Investment Act funding to continue. This funding protects our historic heritage, recognizes the importance of agriculture to our economy and sustainability, and helps care for those who need our help.

Please consider this request to oppose and reject the Governor's proposal.

Thank you,

Allan D. Walker, Jr.

First Selectman, Town of Woodstock