



Town of Hebron

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SELECTMAN

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SELECTMAN

March 9, 2015

State Senator Cathy Osten
State Representative Gayle Mulligan
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: State of Connecticut Community Investment Act

Dear Senator Osten and Representative Mulligan,

The Town of Hebron has been made aware of efforts to divert funds from the purposes and intent of the Community Investment Act (CIA). This Act was approved with great bipartisan support in 2005 for the specific purpose of funding open space conservation, farmland preservation, dairy support, historic properties preservation, and affordable housing development.

Of note, the CIA is the only consistent source of funding for the Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program (OSWA), the most significant source of funding for land preservation efforts in the State of Connecticut. Hebron has found that program to be a tremendous tool to protect important open space parcels and protect the character of the community. In addition, we have taken advantage of the funds set aside for historic preservation programs that not only protects historic assets but has economic development benefits as well. And it should be noted that investments that the State has made through this program has leverage millions of dollars in matching funds (private, federal and local sources) back into our cities and towns.

Please do what you can to guarantee that these fees continue to be used solely in the preservation and protection of Connecticut's open space and historic properties.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Tierney
Town Manager