March 7, 2015

To Persons Considering the **Community Investment Act** Budget

I am writing to oppose Governor Malloy's proposed redirection of funds dedicated for the function and mission of the Community Investment Act, as delineated in the Governor's Deficiency Bill, H.B. 6825, section 5.

My name is Ronald Marchetti and I am a resident of Bloomfield. I serve as secretary of The Wintonbury Historical Society and I am a member of the board of Ironwood Community Partners, Inc., a non-profit dedicated to the enhancement of community life through preservation, conservation, and re-use.

My involvement in these organizations underscores my commitment to the essential principles to which the Community Investment Act is dedicated, specifically, the preservation of open space and farmland, and the conservation of historical properties. The development of affordable housing, another aspect covered by the Community Investment Act, supports one of the most important social initiatives in Connecticut, a state where the financial comfort of many of its residents obscures the debilitating challenges of so many other residents who live at or below the poverty level.

To move the money slated to fund the Community Investment Act into the state's general fund to help balance a deficit displays short-sighted thinking: once that money is gone, it will be hard to recover, just as every dairy farm that becomes a subdivision produces an irrevocably lost opportunity to preserve the quality of life in this state.

I sincerely hope that the Community Investment Act will remain funded and I hope that you will preserve the vision that brought the legislation into being in 2005.

Sincerely,

Ronald Marchetti
669 Bloomfield Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002