



ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATION CONSULTANTS
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State of Connecticut
Finance, Review, and Bonding Committee

Senator John W. Fonfara
Legislative Office Building
Room 3700
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Representative Jeffrey J. Berger
Legislative Office Building, Room 4109
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Subject: State Revenue
S.B. No. 946 An Act Concerning Revenue Items to Implement the Governor's Budget.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in opposition to depletion of funds associated with the Community Investment Act. The Community Investment Act is and has been exactly what its title states, an investment in our communities.

As a preservation architect working on Connecticut projects, I have experienced first hand the economic benefits of the Community Investment Act to my business, the building trades, property owners, and communities themselves. All of this results in a stronger economy for Connecticut. I just completed consulting on a project funded by the Vibrant Communities Initiative, administered by the Connecticut Trust. The purpose of this project was to assess and promote the viability of conversion of a long abandoned mill complex in the heart of a community. This project would serve to stimulate the economy of the area, promote and support start up businesses - including agriculture-related, and provide educational support facilities. This was just one of many similar economic stimulus programs the Connecticut Trust administers which is funded by the Community Investment Act. Bottom line - depletion of funds from this source will result in fewer jobs for tax-paying citizens of Connecticut.

As the president of a local preservation organization, the New Canaan Preservation Alliance, I have experienced the encouragement the financial "carrot" which the Community Investment Act offers. This has been one of the few tools at our disposal to offer to property owners who otherwise would either have no interest or ability to maintain or restore their properties. This fund has also enabled our organization to hire qualified professionals to conduct Historic Architectural Resource Surveys which identify our community's historically important structures. Identification by a qualified professional is the first step in the process of preservation, a process which it has proven to support the economy of the communities within the state.

I strongly encourage you to support Connecticut's historic and economic interests by maintaining the Community Investment Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose-Scott Long Rothbart".

Rose-Scott Long Rothbart

cc: Senator Scott Frantz
Senator Toni Boucher