

February 13, 2015

Planning and Development Committee

RE: Proposed Bill No. 5886

An Act Prohibiting Municipal Employees from Serving on Certain
Municipal Legislative Bodies

Attention Committee members:

I am Mary Bigelow a former 9 term member of the North Branford Town Council. Our form of government is Council-Manager with no Board or Committee of Finance. Our charter is silent on the issue of Municipal employees being elected to the Town Council. We have had difficulties with Municipal employees being elected and participating in their particular budget discussions and voting. Even with our Code of Ethics now in place, they continue to see no problem with discussing and voting on their particular budgets.

I support the Proposed Bill No. 5886. However, I have concerns about the section regarding "if such prohibition is set forth in the municipality's charter". I feel that if the Charter is silent on the issue then the previous statement should hold for those municipalities too.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my long held opinions in this matter.

Sincerely

MaryE Bigelow
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