

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Voluntown, Connecticut. It has been brought to my attention that there is a proposed senate bill that could have a huge impact on my town.

The proposed bill SB #1 An Act Concerning Tax Fairness and Economic Development. If I understand the bill correctly, The passing of this bill would lock in funding with no recognition of current town related expenses and future costs, would could have the devastating affect on our town.

Voluntown consists of 24,323 acres, of which the state owns 15,945 acres, or 65.6% of the town, Residential and commercial acreage total 8,229 acres or 33.8% of the town, the remaining 149 acres or .6% consist of tax exempt properties.

Because the state being the major landowner in the town results in a reduction of land available for commercial development. The impact of the town's tax base and resulting financial consequences of the state's exiting PILOT program and unfairness is dramatic.

PILOT payments have declined steadily with the 2014-15 calculated payment decreasing to \$147,923 with a further decline proposed for 2015-16. This years PILOT payment represents a decline of 28.5% compared to 2009. The states land holdings account for 65.6% of the town yet the pilot payments represent only 3.9% of the total tax payments. Which translates into 96.1% of the tax burden falling on the local taxpayer. The current system results in Voluntown subsidizing the State. The State is the majority stakeholder in the town but pays the least amount!

Basically, the level of funding we receive this year would remain going forward and that would be it, attempts to change the pilot would be fruitless, as proposed in this new bill.

Long range this would be devastating to the town of Voluntown,

It is my hope that you will not support the passing of this bill as written without some type of amendments/provisions for the town of Voluntown.

Thank you,

Lloyd VanLanen
456 Pendleton Hill Rd.
Voluntown, CT 06384