



Connecticut Farm Bureau Association
775 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor, CT 06095-2322
(860) 768-1100 • Fax (860) 768-1108 • www.cfba.org

February 27, 2015

Testimony in support of:

Senate Bill No. 882 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

Submitted by: Henry N. Talmage, Executive Director, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association *the following testimony is submitted on behalf of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, a statewide nonprofit membership organization of 5,000 families dedicated to farming and the future of Connecticut agriculture.*

Senator Osten, Representative Miller and members of the Planning and Development Committee,

Farm Bureau supports HB 882 with an amendment to allow for an important issue relating to municipal infrastructure. There has been significant redevelopment of aging and often neglected waterfront marine docks utilizing state funds by coastal municipalities. In many cases these projects have converted docks that once supported commercial fishing operations to recreational marinas and other recreational marine uses. As a result many small commercial fisherman harvesting clams and oysters have lost access to docks to off-load their products. Therefore, in the effort to promote the aquaculture industry the Connecticut Farm Bureau encourages that SB 882 be amended to require municipalities that utilize state funds for redevelopment of marine docks be required to allow reasonable, limited access for commercial operators to off-load their catch.