



Riverwind Inn, LLC

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February 8, 2016

Appropriations Committee

Greetings:

I am sending this letter in support of keeping the present Tourism Budget in place with no reduction in the proposed budget.

As owner of a small B&B in Deep River, we greatly rely on tourism to keep our business alive and also keep the surrounding town business thriving by having our guests stay with us while spending their money in CT at restaurants, theater, museums, and other attractions.

I hope the Committee is aware of how much money is generated by us booking just one room. Although we are located in a small town, we have received guests from as far away as Dubai, Australia and Japan! These guests come for all reasons, but mostly to visit our beautiful River Valley. Guests remark that they have seen the "Connecticut Still Revolutionary" ads on the TV and had no idea what CT had to offer!

The ads are WORKING. You must keep the budget in order for the State to increase their revenue by tourism.

The Regional Tourism Funds must not be eliminated and the DECD/Tourism Marketing Funds must not be reduced by 17%.

Please take this into consideration when you decide the fate of tourism in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Elaine Klevens
Owner
Riverwind Inn B&B