



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
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MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
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Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee
Public Testimony
March 9, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 337 AN ACT ELIMINATING THE SALES TAX ON CAR WASH SERVICES

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Fonfara, Representative Berger; Ranking Members Senator Frantz, Representative Davis; and esteemed members of the Committee. My name is Gayle Mulligan and I am the representative for the 55th District which encompasses Andover, Bolton, Hebron and Marlborough. I am writing today in support of SB 337.

I love living in Connecticut and I cannot express enough my adoration for the people of this great state. We are go getters who are constantly working to better ourselves and the community. But even so, we have all seen the problems in Connecticut worsen, especially with our finances. Every year there is another deficit and the go to solution is increase taxes. We have reached the point where seemingly everything and anything is open to taxation, including car washes.

The sales tax on car washes is without a doubt unnecessary and yet another additional burden to the people of Connecticut. They are tired of being taxed, especially on minor things such as car washes. Furthermore, people must now have their car washed out of simple necessity. Recently a study was completed concerning the use of certain chemicals for road treatment by the Department of Transportation. I am not going to debate whether the chemicals result in corrosive damage to vehicles; I believe that has been proven. Much evidence has been put forth which illustrates the destruction caused by the chemicals and the only solution for the average person is to wash their car and endure yet another tax---one which must be endured because of the actions of the state. Many people would not consider getting their car washed but the choice is either pay the tax or watch it fall apart.

People and businesses are leaving Connecticut at an ever increasing rate and the main reason is taxes. There are taxes on car washes, on clothing, on income, on the transfer of income and on and on a seemingly never ending barrage of taxation. The joke used to be at least the government can't tax air but at this rate that may be around the corner. I ask this committee to pass this bill and provide at least some relief to the people of Connecticut.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Gayle Mulligan'.

Gayle Mulligan
State Representative, 55th District