

Hobart, Jamie

From: Jim Roberge <jimroberge1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2016 8:53 PM
To: pstestimony
Subject: Concerning Bill 234 & Bill 235

I'm a concerned Willington resident and have issues regarding the proposal to build a State Police Gun Range in Willington.

I am in support of Bill 234 as it seeks to

- protect taxpayers from unnecessary spending
- provides increased transparency
- ensures we do the appropriate level of analysis as well as leverage existing State owned land

I researched the data.ct.gov site and found the state currently owns over 150 parcels of land that are greater than 250 acres and are not currently deemed a Park or Forest.

As Congressman Courtney has expressed, the National Guard facility in East Haven has the facilities and capacity to meet the State Policy training needs. The idea of spending up to 28M for a new training facility when the state is headed into a fiscal crisis is extremely irresponsible and a potential tragedy for taxpayers.

The Gun range doesn't belong in Willington as the site doesn't meet the State's own criteria of considerations:

proximity to a church
proximity to a cemetery
proximity to a school
impact on agricultural lands
impact on flood plains

I strongly urge your consideration of locations for this facility:

- in a community that meets all of your criteria
- in a community that is interested and supports siting this type of facility
- on state-owned property
- by expanding a current firearms training facility

Concerned Willington Resident,
James Roberge

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