



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

**REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN HARDING, JR.**  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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**MEMBER**  
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
FINANCE, REVENUE, AND BONDING COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee  
February 26, 2016

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 5062 – AN ACT ELIMINATING THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS**

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Fonfara, Representative Berger; Vice Chairs Senator Leone, Representative Lemar, Representative Santiago; Ranking Members Senator Frantz, Representative Davis; and esteemed members of the Committee.

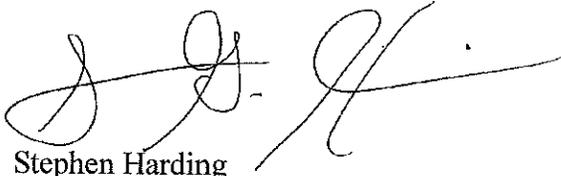
Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of HB 5062 – An Act Eliminating the Personal Income Tax on Social Security Benefits. This bill seeks to assist Connecticut's elderly population by eliminating the personal income tax on Social Security benefits.

Our seniors have seen every paycheck they have ever earned hit with deductions for Social Security. It is not fair for the State to tax what our citizens have already been taxed on, merely because we need to satisfy our unquenchable thirst to spend.

No one is denying that we have a beautiful state with a lot to offer. However, the biggest problem I hear from my constituents, especially my seniors, is the state is too expensive. Our seniors will migrate south after retirement because this state is not affordable. Many of these citizens have lived in Connecticut all their lives, and have no desire to move other than the fact that the tax burden is becoming too much for them. They want to stay and live out their remaining years here, but we are driving them south. Let's reverse this trend and make Connecticut a state that people come to work and raise their families, and then retire and live out their remaining years enjoying everything we have to offer.

Removing this tax is a step in the right direction for our senior population and will greatly benefit the state of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Harding', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen Harding  
State Representative – 107<sup>th</sup> District  
Bethel • Brookfield • Danbury