

March 14, 2016

Senator Cassano

Representative Jutile

Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee

My name is Ivan Johnson and I live in Southbury Connecticut. I am a board member of Pierce Hollow Village Inc. and a member of the building committee for the new affordable senior housing project. The project is to be constructed on 45 acres of land, previously occupied by the Southbury Training School in South Britain, CT. This parcel of land is described in Bill HB5619 under section #4 (Special Act 13-23.)

The Pierce Hollow Village committee has worked diligently with the state Department of Developmental Services and the town of Southbury. The administration of Southbury Training School have worked cooperatively with our committee to meet the requirements of the proposal.

I would like to say that as a Southbury resident I fully support Bill HB 5619 which amends Special Act 13-23. This parcel of land is important to the seniors in our community for many reasons. It will provide affordable housing for residents who live on a limited and fixed income. In addition the housing will allow residents to remain in their community and continue to interact with their neighbors. The living space will be designed to adapt to their changing needs, assuring that independence can be maintained. Both planned transportation through the local senior center and the use of personal vehicles will insure a good quality of life for our seniors.

There is a waiting list of over 200 individuals for the existing affordable housing units at Grace Meadows, a clear indication that the need is great and will become greater in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ivan Johnson