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February 15, 2017

Submitted by: Henry N. Talmage, Executive Director, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association, a statewide nonprofit membership organization representing 4,000 families dedicated to farming and the future of Connecticut agriculture.

Senator Cassano, Senator Logan, Representative Lemar and members of the Planning and Development Committee,

Testimony in support of:

Proposed Bill No. 6926.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau supports Proposed Bill No. 6926 AN ACT PERMITTING MUNICIPALITIES TO IMPOSE A BUYER'S FEE ON THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau supports enabling legislation to allow municipalities the option of imposing up to a 1% buyer's fee on the conveyance of real property in excess of \$150,000. We believe that the Bill should be amended to clearly allow for the purchase in fee as well as the purchase of conservation easements of farmland and other open space. In addition in order to encourage conservation and to help facilitate farm transitions, we believe that the sale of land subject to an existing conservation easement as well as the sale of active farmland that will continue to be actively farmed by the new owners should be exempt from the conveyance fee.

The Voice of Connecticut Agriculture