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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, Ranking Member Zawistowski and members of the Planning and Development Committee,

Testimony in support of:

House Bill No. 5534 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CLASSIFICATION OF FARM LAND.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau fully supports House Bill No. 5534. The Bill clarifies the intent of the existing law to require assessors to remove only the actual size of a home site from the eligible land in a PA 490 farmland application. It is our understanding that some assessors have been removing a minimum building lot area. This can have a detrimental effect on small farms in towns that have large minimum building lot requirements. In these cases that land that is not part of the home site and is being farmed would not receive PA 490 status. Therefore we encourage the passing of HB No. 5534.

The Voice of Connecticut Agriculture