

TOWN OF SCOTLAND

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN



March 23, 2018

To: Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth

From: Daniel D Syme 1st Selectman
Town of Scotland
9 Devotion Rd
Scotland Ct 06264

Re: Testimony in support of Commissions recommendations for fiscal stability and economic growth.

The Town of Scotland supports the recommendations from the Commission of Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth.

One must ask, why would the 6th smallest town in Connecticut support the Commission's proposal when it has little to gain financially? Answer: It is a step towards reforming how Connecticut is fiscally managed from the largest urban area to the smallest town.

It gives municipalities the option of raising local revenue thereby taking some burden off of property taxation. It starts to level the field where non-profits have been exempt from paying for services given by the municipality. It offers municipalities to provide more work and employment by increasing the threshold to \$1 million for renovation and rehabilitation construction projects.

Municipalities are diminishing their fund balances in order to provide services and education. The proposal to protect municipal fund balances of 15% or less is critical for a community to remain solvent.

The Commission's recommendations are only the beginning of what is needed to strengthen the Connecticut economy.

PLEASE support the Commission's recommendations.

First Selectman
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