



Branford
Land
Trust

April 28, 2019

CT General Assembly
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Dear Committee,

I am president of the Branford Land Trust. I strongly oppose section 1 SB 1137 and section 5 of SB 1138 which require land trusts to pay a property tax into a state community development account. Our all-volunteer Land Trust is over 50 years old with a strong amount of local support and membership. This proposal would divert resources that were raised by donations and memberships away from their intended use of preserving and protecting open space on the CT shoreline. The intended use of these donations was not to support a state tax and we believe this legislation would also undermine our attempts to raise future donations to support open space conservation.

Please vote NO on these proposals to tax land trusts.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Raymond
Branford Land Trust President

