

Dear Senator Catherine Osten and Representative Toni Walker and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

My name is Sister Cecilia Baranowski and I am a Sister of Mercy, a member of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance as well as a member of the Collaborative Center for Justice. I live in Wolcott and I support H.B. 6662: An Act Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis and Establishing the Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health.

People of color are forced to live in public housing that is very poorly maintained and managed. The conditions are ripe for various health conditions such as asthma, infestation by vermin, and unsafe due to gangs and gun violence.

It is for these reasons I support H.B. 6662 because it is an opportunity to lead the pursuit for racial justice with action. I urge you to support H.B.6662.