

To Senator Catherine A. Osten, Representative Toni E. Walker, and Members of the Appropriations Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

I am the Rev'd Curtis Farr, and I live and serve in Fairfield, Connecticut. I stand in support of H.B. No. 6662: An Act Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis and Establishing the Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health.

Systemic and structural racism are a plague on our society. We cannot look away from the disparities we know exist in our state when it comes to healthcare, housing, education, access to food and transportation, and more. We know the problem exists and must take seriously the lives that are impacted and destroyed by racism.

H.B. 6662 is an opportunity for our state to lead the pursuit for racial justice with action. I stand with the Connecticut Campaign to Address Racism as a Public Health Crisis and ask that this bill be amended to include a review and reform of the legislative process to improve public accessibility and set in place mechanisms to determine the impact of proposed legislation on race.

I urge you to support H.B. No. 6662 An Act Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis and Establishing the Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health.

The Rev'd Curtis Farr
Fairfield, Connecticut