

Testimony in favor of HB 6618

Dear Senator McCrory, Representative Sanchez, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty and Members of the Education Committee,

As Treasurer of the Region12 School District, I urge all members of the Connecticut Legislature to vote in favor of HB 6618, an Act Concerning Certain Funding Issues Affecting Boards of Education. More specifically, to correct the inequity between municipal school districts and regional school districts, in that 2019 legislation allowed municipal districts to increase annual contributions into their non-lapsing capital reserve account to 2% of their annual budget. Unfortunately, this same 2019 legislation did not change the statutory contribution for regional school districts, which were held at 1% annually. Most people agree that this discrepancy is merely an oversight, is easily rectified by changing statutory language and will not cost the State of Connecticut one cent.

As a very small school district with an annual budget of approximately \$23 million, it would be in Region 12's best interest to be able to grow and utilize the non-recurring capital reserve fund in order to best maintain and make improvements to our educational facilities. I also speculate that all of the other regional school districts in Connecticut would concur on parity in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

John Buonaiuto
Washington, CT
Treasurer of Regional School District #12