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To: Spending Cap Commission

Date: October 12, 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am an attorney and resident of Darien and Westbrook, and am originally from Salisbury.

From an economic and financial standpoint, our state has reached the point of crisis. We can turn Connecticut around, but the only way out of the colossal mess we find ourselves in is fundamental change. One basic element of this is to adopt a definition of spending that includes the pension costs and pension liabilities (often referred to as the ARC). Without this inclusion, the definition will be just another loophole, enabling fiscal irresponsibility and leading us further down the path toward financial ruin as a state. With this inclusion, you will signal to the legislature and others that Connecticut is getting more serious about addressing its financial challenges.

I urge the Commission to adopt a definition of spending that includes the pension costs and pension liabilities.

Thank you for your service to our state.

Respectfully,

David Matus