



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
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MEMBER
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Testimony in Support of Raised Senate Bill 155

Dear Chairmen Senator Leone and Representative Lemar, Vice Chairs, Senator Bergstein and Representative Simms and Ranking Members Senator Martin and Representative Devlin and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee.

I am honored to be here today with the Waterbury Rail Line Caucus in support of Raised Senate Bill 155 – An Act Concerning Rail Infrastructure Improvements.

The Waterbury Rail Line is a 27.1 rail line from Waterbury to Bridgeport, which is the longest of the three branch lines that make up the Metro-North Railroad New Haven Line. Currently, the Waterbury Rail Line has six stations: Waterbury, Naugatuck, Beacon Falls, Seymour, Ansonia and Derby/Shelton. There are approximately 1,000 daily riders, and we know ridership has increased by 34% after we added one new inbound trip to the morning peak hours commute last year.

As a united, bi-partisan front we stand behind our suggested plan for the Waterbury Rail Line. We hope that by bringing some focus to the Waterbury Rail Line that transportation, investment, and economic growth will be improved throughout the Waterbury Valley Region. If we make the necessary investments in the line I believe my constituents will see an immediate improvement in their quality of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this legislative body, and I urge you to support raised Senate Bill 155.