

Hello,

This is my testimony to request that the now Tourism Fund name be changed to the Arts, Culture and Attraction Fund.

The art may bring tourists but the fund is there to support arts and culture as well and if that is done well then there will be an attraction for tourist to come see and be enriched by while spending their precious dollars in our state.

Support culture and arts 60% of the time and tourism (attractions) 40%. Again, I'll say it...support quality representation of arts and culture and people will want to see it. ARTS MATTER to tourist it is a sign of a healthy state.

Stop adding more line items to the budget. Instead be accountable for what is allocated and spend it wisely and the remaining assets should be shared evenly across the whole group.

My main point is the name and focus of these funds. Is it to attract more tourism to CT? Great...so let's do that with the huge amount of art and culture in our towns, cities across the state.

Changing the name can change the value...it is long overdue in CT to value Arts and Culture as the main attraction and leverage artists and art organizations to be the vehicle reaching tourist in our state and beyond!!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linalynn Schmelzer

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