

Dear Chairmen Osten and Walker, Ranking Members Miner and France, and Distinguished Members of the Appropriations Committee,

In regards to House Bill 5164

I write to you today in strong support of expanded rail service for the Waterbury Branch Line as it is outlined in the Governor's Proposed FY 2022-2023 Budget for Transportation, Judicial & Corrections, and Legislative Agencies.

As a resident of the State of Connecticut it is clear the positive effects funding this project will have on our State. This crucial expansion project will greatly improve the economic viability and overall attractiveness of the Naugatuck Valley and the surrounding communities. The expanded rail service will help us to usher in new businesses and opportunities for transportation service for work, education, and entertainment.

Thank you for your anticipated support of this much needed proposal.

*Annmarie Drugonis*

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First Selectwoman

Town of Seymour CT