

Members of the Spending Cap Commission,

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts although I regret that I could not be here in person. It has been made abundantly clear through the actions of our state legislature that our currently elected officials are unable to responsibly manage the finances of our state. As a resident of CT for the last 37 years, neither my parents nor I can recall a time when our state was in such disarray.

The people and businesses of Connecticut have endured multiple significant tax increases yet the state cannot operate within its means. We have casino revenue, lottery revenue, gas tax revenue, sales tax revenue amongst others and still we can't operate within our means. Our roads and bridges are disastrous even when the gas tax was enacted to pay for such improvements. Those that pay the most in taxes are receiving the least amount of services.

In short, our government cannot be trusted and it is the job of this commission to ensure that the necessary stopgaps are put into place to protect the people of Connecticut and the financial future of our state. It is your job and the job of those that have been elected to do what is in the best interests of the people not the wishes of the politicians.

As such, it is your solemn duty to enact a constitutional spending cap with the properly defined parameters, is iron clad and will not allow any person, party or official the ability to enact decisions that will further hurt the people of Connecticut. We would not been in this situation if the legislature and the Governor were serious about fiscal responsibility or cared for all of their constituents and not just those that vote for them. The time to fix our broken system is now.

Failure to act and failure to do it properly will only fuel the disdain that we the people have for our current government and the legislative process.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

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