

I am writing to state that I am against the proposed increase of taxes that the Connecticut Legislation is looking to pass. My reason against this proposal is that increased taxes will only hurt the small businesses of this state that are trying so hard to stay solvent - as well as the consumers (aka over-taxed taxpayers of CT who have very little spending money remaining).

What CT seems to do is continually overspend on a phantom budget of revenue it thinks it will generate. It increased taxes on all levels which further sank a recessive economy into further circumstances. The majority of workers (that still have jobs) have not seen increases in salary that could maintain the continuous increase in costs of goods, insurance and vital resources, i.e.: electricity, natural gas and/or heating oil.

I myself have had my salary decreased but yet I pay more in taxes. I consume about 30-40% less electricity and yet pay 20% more. My insurance rates have increased 28%. Instead of finding myself in debt, I instead have budgeted myself every year to cut back on expenditures such as travel, dining out, consumer purchases which means I cannot put my money back into local economies. All because I'm trying to pay for the expenses made by out of touch legislators. And yet the theme is I am controlling my spending with the resources I have - I wish Hartford could figure out a way to do the same.

Imagine yourself this scenario: You have a choice between two stores - Store A provides you with goods at fair prices with customer service vs. Store B which charges 35% more on merchandising, charges a premium for customer service and a fee for the shopping bag to carry your purchases out of the store... Which business sounds enticing?

Frankly, Store B sounds a lot like the state of Connecticut and Store A is the business people are going to (or moving out of state to).

Out of state is precisely my goal - If the housing market wasn't so bad, I would have put up a For Sale sign and made plans to join the mass exodus out of CT. Please realize that increasing taxes only brings this conclusion. You may stand and argue on how you are to budget for loss resources, the solution is not to try to raise funds, it is to foster an environment to create more business - then the resources will come back. Raising taxes is only a one way dead end street.

Please reconsider Senate Bill 946!

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