



State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR ART LINARES
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

MINORITY CAUCUS WHIP

RANKING MEMBER
BANKS COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

MEMBER
COMMERCE COMMITTEE
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May 9, 2013

James Redeker
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111

Dear Commissioner Redeker,

On behalf of many commuters I represent in the 33rd state senate district, I write to oppose the state's plan to double fares on the Chester-Hadlyme Connecticut River ferry.

This unfair fare hike would act as a new and higher tax on the families I represent. The ferry carried 37,811 vehicles across the river during the April to November season. For local residents, the 100 percent increase in fares would discourage ridership while raising the cost of living and doing business. The state's plan would also have a negative impact on tourism in our region.

Rather than doubling ferry fares, I urge you to revise your plan and instead find additional budget savings within your department.

The residents and businesses I represent just endured the largest tax hike in state history. They do not want additional taxes, fees or fares in any way, shape or form. They want their state government to find efficiencies and to cut costs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Art Linares
State Senator