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To: testimony@housegop.ct.gov
Subject: Proposed Tax Increases 2015

That's it! I'm outta here!!

I grew up in Connecticut over 70 years ago. I loved living here! Then came college and 10 years of military service out of state. I looked forward to returning to New England and, especially, Connecticut. That finally happened in 1976 and, despite a high cost of living at that time, no state taxes was very attractive.

I personally prospered, although I had to commute to New York City to find a great job. Because I was doing well, I have paid well into six figures in state taxes once that burden was imposed. I watched passively as others, particularly retired, were forced out of their homes in Fairfield County because of the increasing tax burden. After I retired in 2004, I considered moving out of state but decided to stay because there is so much that I love about the state, but I also had to move out of Fairfield County to cut back on expenses. I admit now that I made a mistake at that point. You can't avoid increasing taxes anywhere in the state. The oppressive tax structure is squeezing the life out of people and businesses. I won't run down the list of last places that Connecticut now holds in the economic and business spectrum. What a difference 40 years has made. When companies are moving operations to Massachusetts (Pfizer and others), you should know you are in trouble!

But the current regime is at it again! That's it for me. I just put money down on a retirement home in Maine where that state is proposing tax cuts. Imagine that!!

What took me so long? When I told my friends of my decision, virtually every one said that they either were going to do the same or were planning on leaving the state as soon as they could. And you wonder why Connecticut is one of the few states whose population is stagnant! What happens when the population growth turns negative like New York? Guess the regime will have to squeeze more money out of fewer (and less affluent) people to pay for their totally inefficient and ineffective bureaucracy. Who elects these people anyway? Certainly not me anymore. Just forward my mail to Maine!

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