



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
SENATE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD 06106-1591

SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICES

June 10, 2015

Governor Dannel P. Malloy
Office of the Governor
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Malloy:

In a letter sent to you on Friday June 5 by the Connecticut Business & Industry Association, it was requested that you “convene a meeting at the earliest possible date with CBIA and legislative leaders from both parties so we can discuss with you the very real problems facing the state and how we can take advantage of the special session to rectify the situation.”

In media reports late yesterday, it was indicated that you are planning to meet with CBIA this week, but only in a one-on-one meeting with Joseph Brennan, President and CEO of CBIA. I would like to know why you rejected the request to meet in a bipartisan manner with legislative leaders. We understood that you were open to ideas and a plan to mitigate the damage businesses have so clearly indicated will impact them as a result of these tax hikes. We thought you wanted to seriously talk about the trickledown effect these taxes will have on everyone in our state. By choosing to leave legislative leaders out of the room, we question whether you are truly serious about addressing the concerns raised by CBIA and thousands of other state residents. If you were serious about making changes to this budget, wouldn't you want to invite lawmakers who are crafting and voting on items in the special session to the table to be part of the conversation? Or, are you afraid of another voice in the room and a watchful eye?

As Republicans have previously said, we are open to all negotiations and wish to participate in all budget discussions. We have put forward strong plans to set Connecticut on the right path. Democrats have shut the door on us throughout the entire budget process. You have met with Democrats multiple times, but never with Republicans. Why keep us out of the conversation? We thought you were supportive of a more transparent, open government where everyone is welcome to share their ideas. Yet again you are shutting the doors on Republicans, and now it appears on Democrats as well.

Governor Dannel P. Malloy
June 10, 2015
Page 2

If you are truly committed to righting the wrongs in this budget we implore you to invite legislators from both sides of the aisle to a seat at the table to discuss the impact on our state's businesses. As we saw clearly with this budget, shutting out one side, and in this case both sides of the legislature, does not serve the people of Connecticut well.

Sincerely,



Len Fasano
Senate Minority Leader



Kevin Witkos
Senate Minority Leader Pro Tempore