

## State of Connecticut

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE CAPITOL

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

March 9, 2010

The Honorable Donald E. Williams, Jr.  
Senate President Pro Tempore  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable Christopher Donovan  
Speaker of the House  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Williams and Speaker Donovan:

We, the undersigned, write to you today in the hopes that our voices will help to spur action with regard to the current financial situation of our budget. According to the Comptroller's office, the Office of Fiscal Analysis and the Office of Policy and Management, the budget for this fiscal year is over \$500 million in deficit. The picture for fiscal year 2011 doesn't look any brighter with even less good news for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. We need solutions NOW that do not exacerbate the problems that loom for the foreseeable future.

Our purpose is two-fold.

First, we respectfully request that the legislative leadership and governor's office go to work right away on a resolution to this year's shortfall. As you know, the governor recently unveiled her latest deficit mitigation package. While not perfect, it is a place to begin a dialogue. While no solution is easy or without pain, we all have a responsibility to the taxpayers of this state to get our fiscal house in order. The scope and proportions of our economic crisis demand urgent and coordinated action by both the legislature and the governor.

Second, and more importantly, we cannot support any further efforts to borrow our way out of the situation. On a per capita basis, Connecticut is one of the most indebted states in the nation and to continue to travel down that path is irresponsible and makes no long-term sense. Additional debt is not the answer. The only way we can responsibly address the current deficit is to immediately reduce spending.

We can no longer wait or hope for a miracle on Capitol Avenue. Times are tough. We stand, ready, willing and able to assist and provide the support for closing our deficits in a responsible way. There is no time to waste.

Sincerely,




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Senator Bob Duff



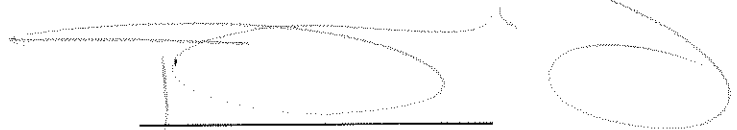
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Representative Terry Backer



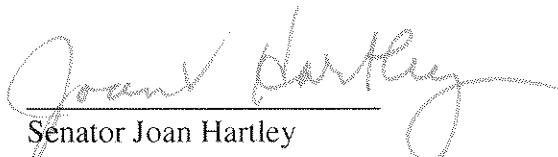
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Senator Gayle Slossberg



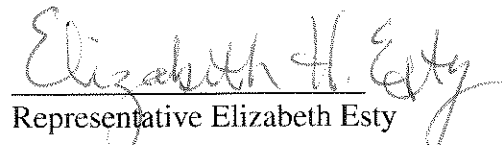
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Representative Tom Drew



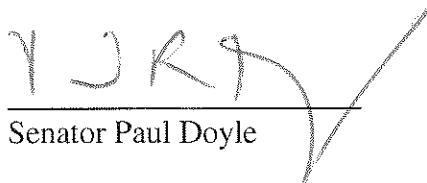
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Senator Joan Hartley



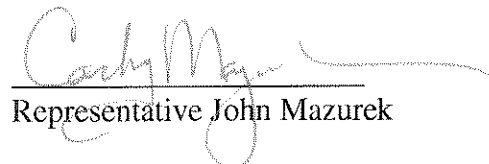
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Representative Elizabeth Esty



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Senator Paul Doyle



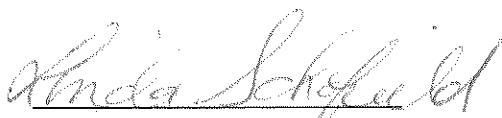
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Representative John Mazurek



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Representative Ted Moukawsher



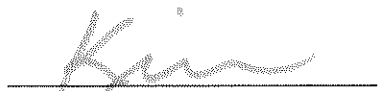
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Representative Linda Schofield



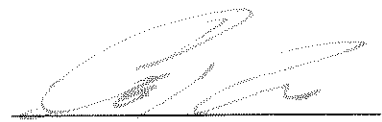
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Representative Chris Wright



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Representative Kim Fawcett



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Representative Chris Perone



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Representative Steve Mikutel



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Representative Tom Reynolds