



State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

May 8, 2012

The Honorable Pedro Segarra
Mayor, City of Hartford
550 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Mayor Segarra:

We are writing to thank you for your leadership over the last year in trying to find some common ground on a bill that will help the City of Hartford meet its obligation to produce a responsible, balanced budget. We stand together in our belief and desire to work together to tackle this and any issue that would improve the lives of the people of Hartford.

Your letter dated today describes the importance of passing legislation this session that will help the city meet its revenue goal. After much discussion and compromise, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed HB5317, which was done in discussion with you and Council President Shawn Wooden.

This bill protects homeowners from experiencing unconscionable tax increases and gives the Mayor and Court of Common Council the ability to increase assessment ratios on apartments in a transparent manner. We believe that the decision to make these increases rest on the City of Hartford's proposed budget, which we are not involved in drafting. As such, these changes should be part of the debate at the local level and give residents the opportunity for input.

This bill has the unanimous support of the House of Representatives. By no means is this the only answer to the question before us, we accept that. However, we truly believe that this bill is the most responsible answer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rep. Marie Kirkley-Bey

Rep. Douglas McCrory

Rep. Minnie Gonzalez

Rep. Matthew Ritter

Rep. Hector Robles

Rep. Kelvin Roldán