

State of Connecticut

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE CAPITOL

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

April 3, 2000

Commissioner Arthur J. Rocque, Jr.
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Commissioner Rocque:

Twice in the past two years the University of Connecticut has applied to DEP through the Long Island Sound License Plate Fund, requesting grant monies to be used for the restoration of the Avery Point Lighthouse, which is located on the Avery Point Campus of UConn in Groton. On both occasions the requests have been denied. Late last month a new request for grant monies was submitted by the University.

The total amount requested from the License Plate Fund is \$25,000. The grant monies are to be used for the stabilization of the exterior of the Lighthouse and to conduct an engineering study to determine the total amount required for restoration. It is our understanding that the University plans to match the grant money "dollar for dollar."

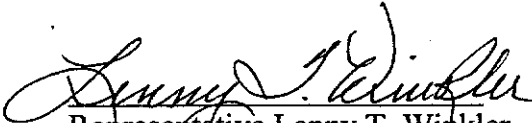
It appears that the grant application submitted by UConn meets all the criteria set forth in C.G.S. 22a-27n (b), which states in part:

"All moneys deposited in the [Long Island Sound] account shall be used by the Commissioner of Environmental protection for (1) the provision of grants or loans to private, nonprofit entities or to municipalities for the preservation, maintenance or restoration of publicly-accessible historic lighthouses on Long Island Sound including, but not limited to, protection of lighthouse structures and associated properties from tidal erosion, and enhancing public access to lighthouses..."


It is vitally important that the grant be approved as deterioration to the lighthouse continues to mount as each day goes by. We write to respectfully request that you review this grant application and do what you can to encourage its approval by the License Plate Fund. Thank you for your attention to and cooperation with this request.

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Sincerely,


Representative Lenny T. Winkler



Senator Melodie Peters


Representative Nancy DeMarinis

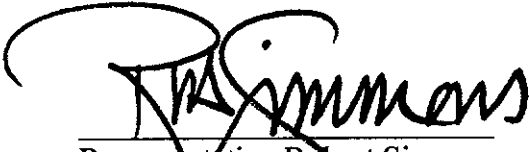

Senator Catherine Cook

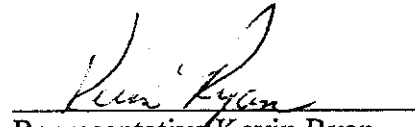

Representative Mary McGrattan



Representative Andrea Stillman

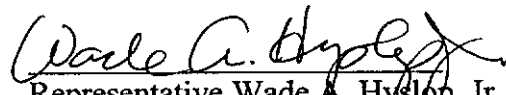

Representative Claire Sauer

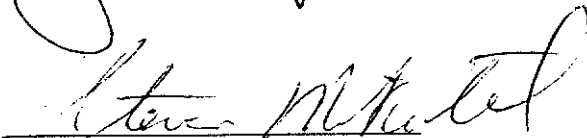

Representative Peter Nystrom

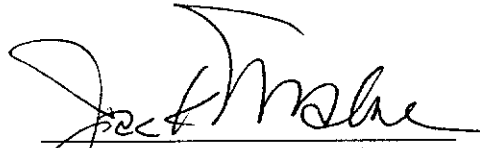

Representative Robert Simmons

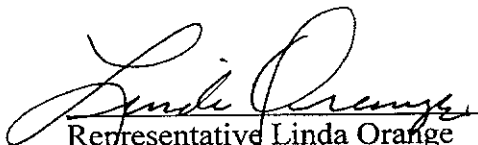

Representative Kevin Ryan

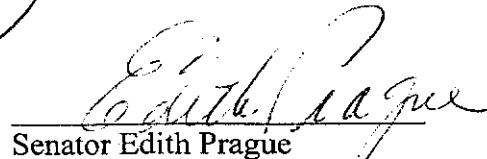

Representative Gary Orefice


Representative Wade A. Hyslop, Jr.


Representative Steven Mikutel


Representative Jack Malone


Representative Linda Orange


Senator Edith Prague

Cc: James L. Streeter