

Sample Media Tools

Sample Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Our senators should vote no on the SENATE BILL 2024, which would reduce the nonprofit funding to a level of less than half the appropriation for last year.

This legislation would do real damage to the nonprofit organizations in our district. Last year the entire community benefited from the quality of services offered by the performances of the Connecticut Dance Company, and four exciting exhibitions at The Performing Arts Center. Over 9,000 theatergoers attended the 2001-2002 season here at the Sparkplug Theatre. All these activities depended, in part, on funds received from the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. Our quality of life and the educational opportunities for our students would be adversely affected if this legislation should pass.

Our arts activities are also important as economic assets. Arts dollars are not charity; they are an investment that pays dividends back to the public, many times over.

Readers should make their voice heard, by writing and calling their state senator to urge a “No,” vote on the SENATE BILL 2024.

Your Name

Your Address

Your Daytime Phone Number

- After you have written the letter, rework its paragraphs into a short letter to the editor and mail it to one or more local newspapers. If it is convenient for you, format the letter into an email and send it (as a duplicate) to the legislator’s email address.
- Always send copies of letters and emails to your state Association, as well as copies of any replies.

Sample Op-Ed Piece

WE ALL PROFIT FROM NONPROFITS

From now through the holidays, our reliance on nonprofit organizations in our community multiplies. Yet for them most part, these nonprofits are doing what they do to help people day-in and day-out all year long but they are doing more of it.

We count on all these nonprofits to make the holidays brighter for those who are homebound, disabled, elderly, lonely, down on their luck, or in need of a helping hand. In turn, these organizations count on us for support.

As a community, we rely on soup kitchens, homeless shelters, food pantries, relief organizations like the Red Cross and Salvation Army, food distribution programs like Foodshare and the Connecticut Food Bank, civic, fraternal, and religious organizations to provide meals and food for individuals and families. We also call upon many of these same groups plus the choirs, dance companies, and orchestras to evoke the caring and festive spirit of the holidays.

Connecticut has more than 11,000 nonprofits. They are anchors in times of community crisis and turmoil. They give us solace in the quiet times of personal despair. They are champions for the disadvantaged, the sick, and the young. They are a voice for our open space, forests, rivers, animal life, and historic landmarks. They are gatherers of community resources, channels for philanthropic ideals, a neutral ground for solving problems and committed advocates for needed change.

Their efforts are endless and enduring. More importantly, they are partners with government in responding to and addressing the problems of our communities. Without the nonprofit organizations, the cost of meeting the needs of our citizens would be far greater to our government and taxpayers.

Charitable impulses run deep in Connecticut's people. I hope, this year, it will be no different. Join us in giving thanks this holiday season by supporting our local nonprofits with your time and money. We will all benefit.

Eddie Perez
Mayor
City of Hartford

Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor
City of Stamford