140 Cascade Boulevard, Milford, Connecticut 06460 203 877-5657 800 989-5657 Fax: 203 783-9546 www.orangeresearch.com

May 7, 2015

Testimony of Orange Research, Inc.
Before the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

My name is Paul Hoffman. I am the President and owner of Orange Research, a family owned small manufacturer, located in Milford employing 48 people.

I strongly oppose the current budget, as prepared by the Appropriations and Finance Committees, which would do serious harm and erode the business confidence in Connecticut as a place to locate, grown and create jobs.

When will we ever get off of this "Spend and Tax Merry-Go-Round"?

Two years ago, we were told to swallow the largest Connecticut tax increase in our State's history, along with government concessions and spending cuts to balance the budget. As expected, all of the concessions were not realized and here we are back, two years later, as the "Spend and Tax Merry-Go-Round" continues to spin.

The spending cap, which was put in place in 1992 after establishing the state income tax, was approved by Connecticut voters, to control spending and stay within the State's means.

I strongly oppose any rewrite of the terms of the State's constitutional spending cap, which appears to be doing what it was intended to do.

A rewrite, without voter consent, continues to feed the "Spend and Tax Merry-Go-Round", with no end in sight and even less accountability.

I am concerned about the lack of willingness to stop this "Spend and Tax Merry-Go-Round". As a business owner, I believe that our State's legislators should be worried about this question: "When will businesses in the state decide not to ride any more, which will further erode revenue and job growth?"

Thank you for your time,

Paul A. Hoffman

c: Governor Dannel Malloy Senator Gayle Slossberg Representative Charles Ferraro Representative Kim Rose Representative Pam Staneski