

State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 2100

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

860-240-0550

March 18, 2016

Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
90 State House Square, 10th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Honorable Christopher Murphy
United States Senate
One Constitution Plaza, 7th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103

Honorable Joseph Courtney
United States House of Representatives, CT-2
55 Main Street, Suite 250
Norwich, CT 06360

Dear Senators Blumenthal and Murphy and Congressman Courtney,

Thank you for your continued involvement in the crumbling foundation crisis in eastern Connecticut. As the Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Ranking Members of the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Planning and Development, we request your assistance in identifying any federal programs that may be available for the State of Connecticut or homeowners to assist in recovering from these crumbling foundations.

There are increasing reports of affected homes. Fear is mounting in the communities. We have reports of failing home foundations, septic tanks, and spillway dams. Beyond the financial devastation to the homeowners, the anxiety over the collapse of the housing market and tax base in these communities is increasing.

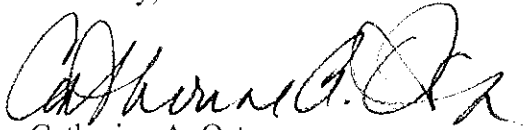
Most insurance companies are not covering the replacement of the foundations under the homeowners' insurance policies. Many constituents are faced with financial ruin with the cost of replacement of these structures at \$150,000 to \$200,000. In the affected area, this replacement cost can exceed the value of the home. For those who have some resources to replace the foundation, the long-term consequences of these families depleting their entire savings and retirement funds have not yet been assessed.

We continue to work on this issue from the State side, and the General Assembly has several proposed bills to address this issue going forward. The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and the Connecticut Attorney General's office continue their investigation into the cause of the crumbling foundations and any possible

violations of the Connecticut Unfair Trades Practices Act. We ask that our federal representatives look to identify any federal programs available for the State, towns, or homeowners who face crumbling foundations. With everyone working together, we are optimistic that we can identify a multifarious solution for the people of the State of Connecticut.

We look forward to hearing from you and working on this issue together.


Sincerely,



Catherine A. Osten
Senate Co-Chair
State Senator, 19th District



Philip Miller
House Co-Chair
State Representative, 36th District

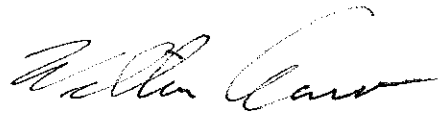


Stephen Cassano
Senate Vice Chair
State Senator, 4th District

Michael D'Agostino
House Vice Chair
State Representative, 91st District



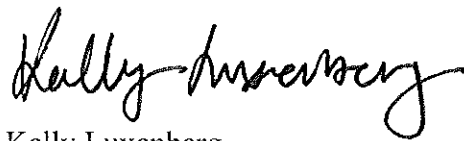
Arthur Linares
Senate Ranking Member
State Senator, 33rd District



William Aman
House Ranking Member
State Representative, 14th District



Anthony Guglielmo
State Senator, 35th District



Kelly Luxenberg
State Representative, 12th District