



Connecticut General Assembly
SENATE DEMOCRATS

Legislative Office Building, Room 3300
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
State Capitol, Room 202

Representative Joe Aresimowicz
Speaker of the House
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100

Senator Len Fasano
Senate Republican President Pro Tempore
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400

Representative Themis Klarides
House Minority Leader
Legislative Office Building, Room 4200

Representative Matt Ritter
House Majority Leader
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100

Senator Paul Formica
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700

Representative Jason Rojas
Legislative Office Building, Room 3700

Representative Toni Walker
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700

Senator L. Scott Frantz
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400

Dear Friends,

We believe that it is critically important that Connecticut's citizens have confidence in the budget process. As we are faced with significant additional revenue shortfalls, all prior budget discussions and proposals have now been superseded by new information.

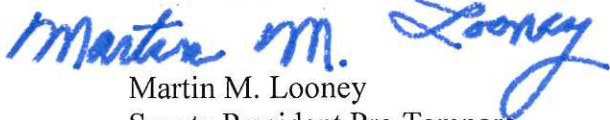
Rather than enduring a month or perhaps several months of dueling news conferences, debating whose contingent, work-in-progress budget is most legitimate, competitive spin, and strategic or retaliatory leaks, let us take a new, more straightforward, unencumbered approach to our current budget challenge.

As leaders, we should pursue the most open, transparent and candid budget negotiation process in Connecticut's history. To that end, we propose that we hold all of our budget and implementer negotiations in the presence of the news media and to be broadcast on CT-N. We believe that working together, in public, will enhance the prospect of achieving a bipartisan agreement which serves the public interest.

To accommodate these proposed public discussions, we have instructed our staff to make a room available each day through the end of the Legislative Session.

Please let us know if you would agree to participate in such a framework for negotiations so that we may begin the scheduling process.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Martin M. Looney in blue ink.

Martin M. Looney
Senate President Pro Tempore

Handwritten signature of Bob Duff in blue ink.

Bob Duff
Senate Majority Leader

Cc: Ben Barnes, Secretary, Office of Policy and Management