



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

MAYOR APPLAUDS COMMITMENT TO TAX BILL

MAYOR RECOGNIZES CHALLENGES AND APPRECIATES CREATIVITY TO REACH GOAL

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY STATEMENT---

(June 9, 2011)--- Mayor Pedro E. Segarra released the following statement on the final passage of House Bill 6559, *An Act Concerning the Municipal Option to Adopt Assessment Rates Limiting Property Tax Increases on Residential Properties*:

“The Senate’s passage today, and the House’s approval last week, is a significant step in what has been a very long journey. Starting back in December, I began my outreach to bring all the appropriate parties – the MetroHartford Alliance, residents, community activists, and small and large business owners alike – with the intent of producing a thoughtful, measured bill that would bring relief to a business community that’s been reeling and protect homeowners from a disastrous scenario: the doubling of their property taxes in one year. Conversations and meetings have continued for more than 6 months, and while this is certainly not a perfect bill, there are many good elements that are included.

I want to thank everyone who has spent countless hours working on this issue, running projections and discussing outcomes. In particular, I want to thank State Representative Matt Ritter and State Senator John Fonfara for their tenacity and commitment to principle, while simultaneously recognizing that changes needed to be made that will move this City forward in a substantive way. The MetroHartford Alliance also deserves to be commended for remaining at the table and realizing that a strong residential core in the Capital City is good for small and large businesses that have chosen to make Hartford their home.

The critical message to be delivered by the passage of this bill is that spending cannot continue to climb upwards without serious repercussions. As Council President and now as Mayor, I have a track record of making fiscally responsible and prudent decisions that are based on preserving a quality of life that our residents demand, and as Mayor I have done just that while also addressing pressing issues that were long left unresolved. This bill represents another reminder that a changing of the culture in Hartford city government is not an option and that we must continue to focus on accountability and efficiency and continuing to do more with less.”