

CONNECTICUT MULCH DISTRIBUTORS, INC.  
CONNECTICUT FOREST PRODUCTS  
CONNECTICUT ORGANICS, LLC  
*A DIVISION OF CONNECTICUT MULCH DISTRIBUTORS, INC.*  
[www.CtMulch.com](http://www.CtMulch.com)

JANUARY 28, 2020

Transportation Committee  
Connecticut General Assembly  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2300  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: "NO to Draft Bill LCO #373. No to Tolls."

MR. Chairman and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. Connecticut Mulch Distributors, Inc. is a second generation family owned business operating 3 separate companies for 44 year. We own and operate 38 trucks (mostly in Connecticut ONLY). We would like to start this letter and end this letter with one single point, Tolls will eventually put our company out of business.

We do 85% of our hauling within the state of CT. This amounts to roughly 11,000 trips throughout the state annually. We do 80-140 deliveries and pickups daily in the state of all our products. Our products are in extremely high demand in the "Gold Coast" of CT. This means we travel into Stamford, Norwalk and Westport upwards of 30 -50 times per day. The travel route taken will be down I84, Route 8 to I95 then back up I95 and I91 during peak hours, potentially passing through 9 gantries per trip. When you add \$100 in tolls to a \$1600 load that will result in a 6.5% surcharge. No customer will be able to absorb a 6.5% surcharge. This cost will be passed onto the residents of CT.

We are concerned about the affects the tolls will have on all of our businesses, our employees and their families. We need to keep Connecticut a place where companies and residents can afford to work and grow. We estimate the total cost of tolls for our companies will be \$400,000 - \$700,000 over 1 year. As I mentioned in the beginning of this letter, Tolls will eventually put our company out of business.

Respectfully,



Kurt Lindeland -Vice President, CT Mulch Distributors, Inc.

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