State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

June 1, 2009

The Honorable M. Jodi Rell
Governor
State of Connecticut
State Capitol, Room 202
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rell:

As you are well aware, by the time the legislative session ends this week it is unlikely a budget agreement between your administration and the legislature will be in place. In this time of uncertainty, families and businesses across Connecticut are relying on us to work together in a bi-partisan fashion and provide a direction out of this economic crisis.

While some progress has been made in negotiations, it is time for us to sit down with you at the table and finalize an agreement. The challenges we all face are unprecedented and it no longer makes sense to leave negotiations to others.

We have concerns about the level of borrowing and one-shot revenues, a total of $5.2 billion, included in your latest proposal. Some of the proposed cuts may also further weaken our already fragile economy.

We believe that both sides are open to compromise but it will take amicable talks, not angry news releases, to get the job done. We are eager to sit down with you –in a spirit of cooperation and bi-partisanship– and reach a budget deal for the people of Connecticut. We are available to begin at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Williams, Jr.
Senate President Pro Tempore

Christopher G. Donovan
Speaker of the House

CC: Senator John P. McKinney
Representative Lawrence F. Cafero