



November 7, 2016

Dear Members of the Law Amendment Committee;

This morning I presented at the Law Amendment Hearing on Bill 52. During my speech and in my notes that were submitted I asked that (2)(b) be change from:

“set different commercial tax rates for commercial property located in areas of the Municipality designated by Council, based on the length or proportion of frontage of a property on a street, including a private road;”

to

*“set different commercial tax rates for commercial property located in areas of the Municipality designated by Council, **based on the square footage of property, or square footage of a building or any combination thereof.**”*

While I still believe that frontage is not an effective way at apply taxation measures, I would like it to be know that the Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association would not oppose the addition of *“square footage of property, or square footage of building or any combination thereof”* to clause (2)(b).

In the above scenario, we would suggest clause that read:

(b) set different commercial tax rates for commercial property located in areas of the Municipality designated by Council, based on the length or proportion of frontage of a property on a street, including a private road or based on the square footage of a property or the square footage of a building or any combination thereof.

As with any of these changes, it will be how the city applies them that matters. And right now the city needs the tools and flexibility to address taxation issues.

Again, I would like to thank the Members of the Law Amendment Committee for listening and for the due diligence they are putting into Bill 52. Tax Reform remains a timely issue, and we hope this Bill is passed before the fall sitting of the legislature ends.

Sincerely,

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