



**Sue Murphy**  
Chair  
Liberty Bank Foundation

**Judith Meyers**  
Vice Chair  
Children's Fund of  
Connecticut

**Christine Traczyk**  
Secretary  
Farmington Bank Community  
Foundation

**Robert Haggett**  
Treasurer  
Newman's Own Foundation

**Dean Andrews**  
Bank of America

**Patricia Baker**  
Connecticut Health  
Foundation

**Paul Ballasy**  
CohnReznick

**Thomas Fiorentino**  
Community Representative

**Linda Franciscovich**  
The Grossman Family  
Foundation

**Amy Fry**  
Boehringer Ingelheim Cares  
Foundation

**Emily Tow Jackson**  
The Tow Foundation

**Michael Johnston**  
Jewish Community Foundation  
of Greater Hartford

**Linda J. Kelly**  
Hartford Foundation  
for Public Giving

**Kathryn Luria**  
Webster Bank

**Frederick Mayer**  
MFUND, Inc.

**Holly Nuechterlein**  
Louis Calder Foundation

**Maggie Gunther Osborn**  
President  
Connecticut Council  
for Philanthropy

**Francis Padilla**  
Universal Health Care  
Foundation  
of Connecticut

**Guy Rovezzi**  
Community Foundation  
of Northwest Connecticut

**Christine Traczyk**  
Farmington Bank Community  
Foundation

**Fahd Vahidy**  
Graustein Family Office

July 15, 2014

The Honorable John Larson  
1501 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 4719

Dear Representative Larson:

On behalf of the 105 members of the Connecticut Council of Philanthropy - community, family, independent, corporate, and public charitable grantmaking foundations, we urge your support for H.R 4719.

Making permanent the three charitable tax extenders that expired January 1 – the IRA Charitable Rollover, and the enhanced deductions for donating food inventories and land conservation easements – will greatly contribute to a stronger nonprofit sector in Connecticut. Even during our tough economic times, Connecticuters used this important charitable giving tool and more are prepared to use it again.

We also applaud this legislation for streamlining the excise tax on private foundations to a flat one percent. We know from the independent research conducted by Cambridge Associates that the current excise tax formula impedes charitable giving by private foundations instead of incentivizing it. We are confident that simplification of the excise tax will result in more charitable giving for communities in your District and statewide by the more than 1,600 private foundations in Connecticut.

While foundation giving is important, the largest source of charitable gifts is individual Connecticuters. The provision to extend the deadline for making charitable contributions through April 15 will make it easier for individual givers to complete their giving without the rush of the Holiday Season. The charitable nonprofits in Connecticut that employ 12% of the state's workforce will indeed benefit from this provision in H.R 4719.

([http://www.ctnonprofits.org/ctnonprofits/sites/default/files/fckeditor/file/policy/private/jeff/Par\\_tnersInProsperityNovember2013FINAL.pdf](http://www.ctnonprofits.org/ctnonprofits/sites/default/files/fckeditor/file/policy/private/jeff/Par_tnersInProsperityNovember2013FINAL.pdf) ).

Thank you for supporting H.R. 4719 and for supporting a strong non-profit sector in Connecticut – an important part of the economic engine contributing to Connecticut's recovery. Please let me know if you need any additional information regarding these charitable tax extenders, streamlining the excise tax on private foundations, or extending the deadline for charitable contributions.

Best regards,

Maggie Gunther Osborn  
President