

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

August 8, 2014

Attorney General George Jepsen
55 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Attorney General Jepsen,

The announcement of the closure of Ocean Classroom Foundation in Maine, run by the former Executive Director of Amistad America, Gregory Belanger, is an issue of great concern. Ocean Classroom Foundation has an agreement with Amistad America to cooperatively manage the Amistad, the official flagship of Connecticut.

We, the undersigned Connecticut legislators, are very concerned the announced closing of Ocean Classroom Foundation could have a negative impact on the schooner Amistad. We would like you to provide us with the following information: a copy of any and all agreements between Ocean Classroom Foundation and Amistad America; a complete statement of all liens currently filed against the Amistad vessel; a copy of all mortgages secured by the Ocean Classroom Foundation vessels or other of its property and your assurance that the Amistad vessel is not pledged or liable for any debts of the Ocean Classroom Foundation and a copy of the agreement entered into by our Department of Economic and Community Development and Amistad America, whether or not this agreement is currently in force. We believe that this information should be available and is important for our assessment as legislators of the situation regarding the Amistad and is important to public understanding of the situation.

We are also seeking from you clarification on who has actual jurisdiction over the Amistad and who might take over the management of Connecticut's official flagship, the Amistad, when Ocean Classroom Foundation closes. As you know, the Amistad has had its own financial problems and an audit of Amistad America is yet to be concluded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Urban".

State Representative Diana Urban,
43rd Assembly District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward E. Moukawsher".

State Representative Ted Moukawsher
40th Assembly District



State Representative Kevin Ryan
139th Assembly District




State Representative Tim Bowles,
42nd Assembly District



State Representative Linda Orange
48th Assembly District



State Representative Peggy Sayers
60th Assembly District



State Representative Patricia Widlitz
98th Assembly District



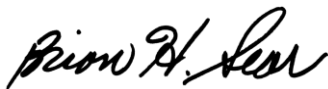
State Representative Edwin Vargas
6th Assembly District



State Representative Kim Rose
118th Assembly District



State Representative Susan Johnson
49th Assembly District



State Representative Brian Sear
47th Assembly District



State Representative Jonathan Steinberg
136th Assembly District



State Representative Robyn Porter
94th Assembly District



State Representative Emmett D Riley
46th Assembly District



State Representative Steve Mikutel
45th Assembly District



State Representative Ed Jutila
37th Assembly District



State Representative Robert Megna
97th Assembly District



State Representative Theresa Conroy
105th Assembly District



State Representative Elissa Wright
41st Assembly District



State Representative Betsy Ritter
38th Assembly District



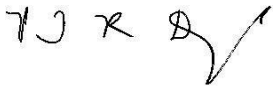
State Senator Terry Gerratana
6th Senate District



State Senator Catherine Osten,
19th Senate District



State Senator Andrea Stillman
20th Senate District



State Senator Paul Doyle
9th Senate District



State Senator Andrew Maynard
18th Senate District