

TESTIMONY BY:

Dr. Kathy Finn, Secretary  
Quaddick Lake Association  
936 Quaddick Town Farm Road  
Thompson, CT 06277

RE: Bill HB 5713-Act concerning special districts.

I represent Quaddick Lake Association (QLA) which is a nonprofit organization in Thompson, CT with 125 members. Our mission is to maintain and preserve the ecological and recreational balance of Quaddick Lake. There is public access to the lake via Quaddick State Park.

QLA is in favor of Bill HB 5713.

Quaddick Lake is infested with 3 types of weeds. Fanwort and Variable Leaf Water Milfoil are invasive species, while Bladderwort is a native plant.

If the weed growth is not addressed, the lake will eventually become unusable by humans and a danger to aquatic life. The QLA Lake Management Committee has met with numerous experts. The main treatment is with an Herbicide called Sonar. It is the only herbicide that will treat the fanwort and it is also effective against the Milfoil and Bladderwort. It is harmless to fish, animals and humans. It is DEP approved.

The initial treatment cost is \$189,000. The approximated yearly maintenance cost is \$40,000. Since we are a small community, the yearly maintenance fees are cost prohibitive.

We are therefore in favor of creating a District for Lake Management. The current state statute does not allow equal assessment per resident in the taxing district. Bill No. 5713 would allow us to create a District for Lake Management. The fees collected would allow us to treat the weeds annually, thereby helping us protect and maintain the quality of Quaddick Lake. This not only benefits the residents on the lake, but also the other Connecticut residents who utilize the Lake via the State Park.