

Matthew Holcombe
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March 4, 2011

Environmental Committee
Eric Hammerling, Executive Director
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
16 Meriden Road
Rockfall, Connecticut 06481

RE: HB 6263

Public Hearing March 7, 2011

Dear Environmental Committee:

This letter is to inform you I, Matthew Holcombe, landowner in Marlborough and Hebron Connecticut want to express in my absence my strong support of HB 6263, transition from 10 mil program. The Holcombe family, as other 10 mil property owners, have held land in the state for 100 +- years preserving the land's natural condition, providing an environment for the propagation of flora and fauna, and providing clean, oxygenated air for the residents of Connecticut.

Over the years we have carried the cost of owning and maintaining the land. Though there have been tax advantages vs non 10 mil land, there still remained a cost to the owners. Any additional taxation would be an extreme financial burden on our family, potentially forcing the sale of some acreage in order to pay additional taxes.

HB 6263 would allow the property owners to maintain a forest/open space tax advantage thereby ensuring continued protection of the land and continuing the passive advantage surrounding residents are enjoying.

Sincerely,

Matthew T. Holcombe