



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Public Hearing – January 31, 2011
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Amey Marrella
Department of Environmental Protection

**Raised Senate Bill No. 837 - AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN CEMETERY EROSION
MITIGATION EFFORTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised Senate Bill No. 837 – AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN CEMETERY EROSION MITIGATION EFFORTS. The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) offers the following testimony.

The bill proposes the relatively minor change of adding cemeteries to the categories of activities for which a coastal flood and erosion control structure may be appropriate. We recognize that cemeteries are in some respects similar to other uses within the 22a-92(b)(2)(J) list, such as public infrastructure or parks, and that adding cemeteries to the list would not significantly affect coastal resources or the state's coastal management program.

However, we would like to bring to your attention the possibility that SB 837, as well as other potential changes to the Connecticut Coastal Management Act, such as the proposed SB 217, may have harmful consequences. The agency will be providing testimony on SB 217 as appropriate. We would welcome the opportunity to work with proponents of both bills to discuss shoreline protection issues further.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Department's views on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact the Department's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance, at (860) 424-3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov.