

Legislation before the Judiciary Committee April 4, 2011

HB 6557: AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR THE RECREATIONAL USE OF LANDS.

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Terri Peters. I am a citizen of Connecticut, a taxpayer and a walker. Walking relieves stress and keeps me healthy. I prefer to walk in areas where I will not be hit by a car such as town or municipal open space. I actually watch where I walk so as not to trip and get hurt. I cannot fathom, that this simple activity could be taken away from me because of the actions of careless individuals looking for easy money through ridiculous lawsuits.

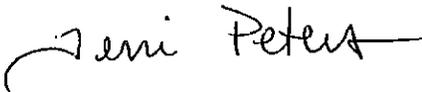
If Connecticut's towns and municipalities close their beautiful lands and open spaces to recreational activity because they fear they may get sued if something like an acorn falls off a tree presenting a tripping hazard, then our state becomes a place where I don't want to live anymore. I'm sure there are other people like me who wouldn't want to live in a state that places priority over protecting wasteful, stupid, get-rich-quick and lawsuit-happy citizen's right to sue instead of protecting the right of towns and municipalities to offer open space for recreational enjoyment of their hard-working citizens.

If this legislation doesn't pass, more time and resource-wasting lawsuits will get filed, open spaces will be closed off and the exodus of hard-working taxpayers moving out of Connecticut will surely follow.

My personal feeling is that the people who sue a landowner because their own actions caused them to hurt themselves, should be provided a full-body, 6-ply suit made of bubble wrap to wear when they venture outside. The last thing these people should receive is a million dollar settlement reward.

It's obvious that this legislation needs to be passed, let's get on with it.

Most sincerely,



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