



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE MATTHEW LESSER
ONE HUNDREDTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 4014
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

HOME: 860-344-1230
CAPITOL: 860-240-8585
TOLL FREE: 800-842-8267
FAX: 860-240-0206
E-MAIL: Matthew.Lesser@cga.ct.gov

VICE CHAIRMAN
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Testimony of
Representative Matthew Lesser, 100th District
March 8, 2011

In Support of HB 5389, An Act Concerning Water Table Contamination in the Town of
Durham.

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, honorable ranking members and members of the
Environment Committee,

I wish to testify this afternoon in support of HB 5389 *An Act Concerning Water Table
Contamination in the Town of Durham*.

This bill would require the DEP to submit a report to the General Assembly on efforts by
the Department to understand, analyze, and act on contamination of the water table of
Durham, Connecticut.

I want to thank Senator Meyer in particular for his strong leadership on behalf of the
people of Durham.

Durham, as you may know, is struggling with a number of issues related to water table
contamination. Multiple issues include arsenic contamination at multiple locations, some
of which may be natural in origin, MTBE contamination and two EPA Superfund sites.

This bill would in effect designate the DEP as the lead agency in proposing a holistic
approach to resolving this problem.

I thank the Committee for its time and for raising this bill and urge favorable action on
this bill.