

Testimony of Donald DiPalma
Environment Committee Public Hearing
Friday, March 16, 2012
10:00 AM in Room 2B of the LOB

**S.B. No. 376 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE COASTAL
MANAGEMENT ACT AND SHORELINE FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL
STRUCTURES.**

I have lived on the shoreline in East Haven, CT since 1953, virtually my entire life. My children are the fourth generation to reside at our home, and I consider this our "homestead". I, along with my family, have gone to considerable expense to improve our property and home to maximize our personal safety and minimize the risk of storm damage. My love for the Long Island Sound shoreline is the foundation for my belief that development of structures along the coastline should be done with serious consideration for environmental concerns.

However, the law should not preclude property owners from doing what must be done to ensure their personal safety and protect their homes and property. Nor should the law in any way threaten their rights to property ownership on the coastline. The law should not impose restrictions that make the process unreasonably complicated or the cost of protective measures unreasonably high. It is critical that the rights of the property owners be given at least equal if not higher priority than the other environmental concerns.

I fully support the revisions to Bill # 376 supported by Senator Len Fasano. I encourage the full legislative body to lend their support to the bill as well.

Donald DiPalma
East Haven, CT