



CONNECTICUT RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION



Testimony on Raised Bill 445 – AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR THE RECREATIONAL USE OF LAND

The Connecticut Recreation and Park Association (CRPA) is a nonprofit and charitable organization whose mission is to provide a network of support to our members through professional development and resources in order to enhance the quality of recreation and parks services in Connecticut. On behalf of our association, which represents over 700 municipal, nonprofit and private, park, recreation and camp organizations throughout the state, I urge you to oppose Raised Bill 445, An Act Concerning Liability for the Recreational Use of Land.

CRPA is opposed to Raised Bill 445 because it is a retreat from the reasonable and necessary limits on municipal liability for the free recreational use of land that was put into place last year with the passage of Public Act 11-211. CRPA's goal is to ensure that Connecticut residents have free access to land for recreational use. Limiting the liability of landowners, including municipalities, is a way of encouraging landowners to keep their property open to the community for recreational use. Access to these natural areas reduces stress, mitigates obesity and other health related issues, connects families and communities, and enhances the quality of life for all.

It is for these reasons that we urge you to oppose Raised Bill 445, An Act Concerning Liability for the Recreational Use of Land.

Paul J. Roche
Legislative Committee Chair
Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association
Director of Ridgefield Parks and Recreation



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