

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

Friday, March 8, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT BUT WITH THE WORD SALE REMOVED

ON RAISED BILL #6539

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FORMER SUNRISE RESORT PROPERTY

My name is Mary Ellen Klinck, a member of the East Haddam Democratic Town Committee, former Town Chair. I have lived in East Haddam for 57 years and remember Sunrise Resort when it was Ted Hilton's Resort. The Resort was always a gem in Moodus and a Resort the town and state took pride in.

I talked to the previous owner Robert Johnson who sold it to the State with the hope that this unique Resort would be preserved and be incorporated into the adjacent Machimoodus State Park. HE DID NOT sell the land so the STATE could then SELL it.

The DEP had planned to open the Resort in 2009. Since then the Resort has deteriorated resulting in vandalism, burglary, destruction of historic homes, fires and an area liability.

I recommend members of this committee visit Sunrise Resort and see for yourselves this valuable site with 4700' of Salmon River frontage, pristine streams, vistas and rich in natural resources. This site has escaped the effects of development-so let's keep it for what it was intended- to be added to the State Park and Forest System, Public Recreation and Preservation of Ct. Landscape.

In conclusion I support the bill except for the word SALE in the last line. If the word SALE remains I would be against it.

Hopefully the State will put some resources in the Preservation and Safety of this former Resort before it is too late.

Let's make it a place that Ct. residents can once again be proud of and enjoy.

Thank you for reading this testimony.

Mary Ellen Klinck


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