



State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR ART LINARES
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 3400
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
Capitol: (800) 842-1421
E-mail: Art.Linares@cga.ct.gov
Website: www.SenatorLinares.com

MINORITY CAUCUS WHIP

RANKING MEMBER
BANKS COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

MEMBER
COMMERCE COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 8, 2013

Sen. Meyer, Rep. Gentile and distinguished members of the Environment Committee:

I am Sen. Art Linares and I am testifying in support of House Bill 6539: An Act Concerning the Former Sunrise Resort Property.

Many residents in the Moodus area and throughout the Connecticut River Valley have fond memories of time spent at Sunrise Resort. The property was a prime location for weddings, family gatherings and a wide array of recreational activities since the early 1930s.

Sunrise was once part of a large and thriving resort community in Moodus that included Johnsonville Village, a privately-owned, recreated 19th century village that is now for sale, and the Klar-Crest resort next door to Johnsonville.

Unfortunately, neglect and vandalism over the last few years have turned this 143-acre property into an abandoned state resource.

Most troubling are the dilapidated buildings and broken windows that create a serious safety hazard - with the state being liable for accidents.

Our goal, with this legislation, is to help salvage Sunrise State Park.

This bill calls for the development of a plan for the property and one that immediately solves the safety issues prevalent on site.

The longer we wait, the harder it will be to return the property to an acceptable standard.

We can return Sunrise State Park to a center for recreation and a revenue generator for the State of Connecticut.

I applaud my colleague, Rep. Melissa Ziobron, for leading the charge in restoring this property to its former glory.

It was once a point of local and regional pride. It can be again, with your help. I urge you to support this bill.

Art Linares
State Senator