



**Testimony of Connecticut Fund for the Environment  
Before the Committee on Energy and Technology**

***In opposition of SB 1035, AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATION OF WATER  
COMPANIES.***

Submitted by Lauren Savidge  
Legal Fellow  
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*Connecticut Fund for the Environment works to protect and improve the land, air and water of Connecticut. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring people together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.*

Dear Senator Duff, Representative Reed, and members of the Committee on Energy and Technology,

Connecticut Fund for the Environment submits this testimony in opposition of Proposed SB 1035, An Act Concerning Regulation of Water Companies. If passed, this legislation would study the possibility of reorganizing water company regulations from the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (“PURA”). While a study is preferable to the alternative of transferring jurisdiction to PURA, as set out in SB 807, An Act Concerning Water Infrastructure and Conservation, the Department of Public Health, Municipal Reporting Requirements and Unpaid Utility Accounts at Multi-Family Dwellings, we believe such a study is a poor use of limited state resources and will only reaffirm the appropriateness of a health based agency regulating our critically important drinking water supplies.

Public drinking water systems and sources must be maintained and such oversight raises public health concerns. Clean drinking water is a basic human necessity and public drinking water systems must be regulated to protect and preserve the quality of drinking water for human consumption. Consuming contaminated drinking water can lead to long term and chronic health problems through waterborne diseases.

The agency best suited to regulate public drinking water is DPH, or the agency that protects and improves the health and safety of the citizens of Connecticut. DPH has effectively protected the quality of our state drinking water and has the most knowledge about public health law. Thus, water company regulation authority should remain with DPH and should not be transferred to PURA.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

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