BEACON POINT MARINE

March 16, 2013

Planning and Development Committee,

As the owner and operator of Beacon Point Marine, with locations in Cos Cob and Shelton, I am writing in support of S.B. 459, S.B. 460, S.B. 461, and S.B. 462. These bills will have a significant and positive impact on marine facilities by granting local towns more control, which will make permitting and approval more efficient and will allow marinas to adequately prepare for storm arrival.

We were impacted by the recent storms and many local marine businesses are still struggling from the effects of Hurricane Sandy. I am in support of setting up a task force to study municipal coastal management. Giving towns more authority when a storm is coming is beneficial because local ideas fit local issues and situations. Giving decision-making power to local towns will allow for an appropriate plan of action (specific to location) to be implemented, which will also allow for a quicker comeback of the businesses in our industry. This will benefit not only our marine businesses, but more importantly will benefit the local boating community who requires pre-storm emergency services and post-storm repair services.

I am also in support of setting up a task force to study sea walls and their permitting and approval. This would hopefully minimize the DEEP's response waiting period, and would also improve the overall process because locals have a better sense of businesses and their locations.

Although I am unable to be present at 10:00am for the public hearing on Monday March 18th, please consider my comments and do not hesitate to contact me regarding my position on the proposed bills.

Kind Regards,

Rick Kral
President

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