

Dear Rep. Melissa Ziobron,

Thank you for introducing the bill authorizing the State to purchase rights-of-way and easements along the Air Line Trail so that the trail will be preserved for recreational use.

Testimony on H.B. No. 5415

An Act Concerning the Air Line Trail

Submitted to the Environment Committee

By

Name Karen Nichols

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I grew up in East Hampton, CT and have many fine memories walking the Air Line Trail adjacent to Cranberry Bog (the skating area on Smith Road). I was excited to learn of the opportunity to connect the trail to downtown Portland, Riverside Park, the Arrigoni Bridge, and Middletown where I currently reside.

Keeping open space available to the public for recreation is extremely important in this digital age we now live in. Additionally, not only will these trails provide important recreation to people, but will provide important land for various species to flourish on.

My hope is to see this bill pass. Thank you for your interest.

Karen Nichols