



State of Connecticut

SENATE

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

I am Sen. Art Linares, and I am testifying in support of two bills dealing with potable water: H.B. 5420 and S.B. 306.

Along with our colleague Rep. Phil Miller, I represent the Tylerville section of Haddam, where the issue of potable water and getting a reliable water system is huge.

Underground pollution has fouled wells in the village. A number of residents now use bottled water as they await a permanent solution to the problem.

I have personally heard from residents in the village who have been using bottled water for years and has been struggling to live without clean water.

H.B. 5420 deals with cases where municipalities are not responsible for the pollution of the groundwater and are ordered to provide potable drinking water. The bill adds the phrase "water required to meet the public health, firefighting and economic development needs of such municipality" to provisions for municipalities seeking grants for groundwater contamination. S.B. 306, section 2, reinstates the authority of the DEEP commissioner to provide potable drinking water to citizens under certain circumstances.

We all have a mutual goal for Tylerville, and that's to get a safe and reliable water system.

The State Bond Commission approval last June of \$470,000 to continue financing potable water services to residents of Tylerville to help complete a Phase II Regional Hydrogeologic Investigation moved us toward that goal. Those funds are very much appreciated, but there is more to do.

These bills can serve to help the people of Tylerville.

Thank you.