

CONNECTICUT MARINE TRADES ASSOCIATION

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Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: **S.B. No. 312 (Raised) An Act Concerning A Long Island Sound Resource and Use Inventory and A Long Island Sound Blue Plan.**

Chairmen Meyer & Gentile, Senator Chapin and Distinguished Members;

The Connecticut Marine Trades Association (CMTA) and our member businesses urge you to support **S.B. No. 312 (Raised) An Act Concerning A Long Island Sound Resource and Use Inventory and A Long Island Sound Blue Plan**. This is a good initiative, forward thinking and comprehensive and will cover the resources available in the Sound as well as the activities that use them. In the interest of accuracy and completeness there are a few wording changes that must be made to the bill before moving it forward.

Line 12: should read “(i) **Recreational and Commercial boating and fishing,**”

Line 28: should read “[navigation] **recreational boating** and fishing, except when necessary....”

Line 32: should read “livelihoods and recreational benefits from **boating and fishing;**...”

Line 69: should read “[the most recent tidal epoch] **current NOAA data,** ...”

Line 100: should read “**and (14) a waterfront residential or business property owner.**”

Changes and additions mentioned above would realign and balance the objectives and representation of the advisory committee and cover most of the impacted infrastructure and sectors active throughout the Long Island Sound watershed. It is important that all the active entities be consulted and no one party left out of the general considerations of a project as expansive as a Long Island Sound Blue Plan.

We urge you to support **S.B. No. 312 (Raised) An Act Concerning A Long Island Sound Resource and Use Inventory and A Long Island Sound Blue Plan** with the necessary wording changes. This will ensure all parties are on an equal footing and are impacted only as and if necessary. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue and please know that we are available to discuss them at any time.

Sincerely,

John S. Johnson
Vice Chairman-Legislative Affairs

Grant W. Westerson
President

Linda A. Kowalski
The Kowalski Group