



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the
Commissioner

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Public Hearing - March 17, 2014
Government Administration and Elections Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner James Redeker
Department of Transportation

Raised H.B. 5550 - An Act Concerning the Conveyance of Certain Parcels of State Land.

The Department of Transportation (CTDOT) offers the following comments on three sections of Raised H.B. 5550, AAC the Conveyance of Certain Parcels of State Land.

Section 4 - New Haven

The Department of Transportation opposes this section. CTDOT cannot release this parcel due to the fact that it is improved with an active roadway. Any plans that affect the roadway should be submitted to the Department for review prior to the agreement to sell this property to ensure that the Department has adequate right of way for safety and maintenance. In addition, the map CTDOT has in its possession does not show the detail of the metes and bounds description contained in the proposed bill. A full scale map showing metes and bounds should be submitted to the Department for review.

In addition, the language states that the property is to be used for economic development purposes only. All properties suitable for economic development should remain with the state and disposed of in accordance with Section 13a-80 as all revenues from the sales of CTDOT property are deposited in the State Transportation Fund for a match against federal funds for other transportation projects. Fair market value plus administrative fees should be paid to the Department if the City would like to use the property for economic development purposes.

Section (b) should be eliminated as a reverter clause is not necessary if the municipality purchases the property.

Section 9 - Darien

The Department opposes this section. There is not enough information to fully review this conveyance as the maps referred to in the raised bill have not been submitted to the CTDOT for review. Discussions with Town of Darien staff indicated that the parcels referenced may be DOT File No. 35-110-12A and 35-110-7A. If this is the case, the Department does not approve conveyance of this property as we may utilize the property for rail station parking.

Section 10 - Colchester

The Department of Transportation opposes this section as written. Section (b) should be written as follows:

“(b) The town of Colchester shall use said parcel of land for ~~municipal purposes~~ a sewer pump station.
If the town of Colchester:...”

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department of Transportation, at (860) 594-3013 or pamela.sucato@ct.gov