



CONNECTICUT REALTORS®

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Statement on

H.B. 5448 (Raised): AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGHWAYS AND PRIVATE WAYS BY MUNICIPALITIES

SUPPORT

Submitted to the Judiciary Committee
March 10, 2014

By Maryann Hebert, Past President
Connecticut REALTORS®

The Connecticut REALTORS® are submitting testimony in support of HB 5448, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGHWAYS AND PRIVATE WAYS BY MUNICIPALITIES. The bill requires town selectmen to notify abutting property owners when the selectmen proposes to discontinue all or part of a highway, private way, or land dedicated for such use.

The Connecticut REALTORS® believe this is an important piece of legislation since all property owners should have the right to be informed of any town meeting which could change the status of their property, especially in relation to a highway, private way or land dedicated for such use. The bill would require that notice be given to the property owner of such meeting 15 days prior to said meeting. We do not believe printed newspaper advertisements are sufficient for this type of change.

The proposal would also require recording of the discontinuance in the town land records with certain specifics including the name of the property owner of the abutting property if the discontinuance is approved. This action would allow for up-to-date records to be kept concerning said properties.

Connecticut REALTORS® represents over 15,000 members involved in all aspects of real estate in Connecticut. For this reason, the Connecticut REALTORS® ask for your support this proposal.

Thank you for your attention and support of this important matter.