State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL

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Testimony

In Support Of

HB 5220
AN ACT CONCERNING A PROPERTY OWNER'S LIABILITY FOR THE EXPENSES OF REMOVING A FALLEN TREE OR LIMB.

Dear Sen. Coleman, Rep. Fox, Sen. Kissel, and Rep. Rebimbas:

I am writing to you today in support of HB 5220, AN ACT CONCERNING A PROPERTY OWNER'S LIABILITY FOR THE EXPENSES OF REMOVING A FALLEN TREE OR LIMB.

I introduced this legislation last year, but unfortunately it died on the House Floor after it passed out of your committee. I appreciated your support last year as well as this year for taking this proposed legislation seriously. This issue becomes a matter of fairness and courtesy that often develops into feuds between neighbors that ends up with the wrong party having to pay for removal of a tree that was diseased and threatening to fall for considerable time.

I have heard from many constituents who have had to pay for fallen trees that belong to their neighbors, many of whom were asked to correct the problem, whether that be tree trimming, or outright removal of a tree that was dead or dying.

We made sure the bill is narrowly tailored and that certain conditions need to be met, **namely a licensed Arborist's determination that the tree is diseased, that proper notice was given to the homeowner who owns the tree in question and that the owner of the tree in question failed to remove the tree or limbs after receiving the proper notice.**

The above three conditions are fair and reasonable things to be asked by the neighbor who is in danger of having to foot the bill for a condition that is easily remedied by the property owner who owns the diseased or dead tree.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Fred Camillo

Fred Camillo
State Representative

Please visit my website at www.repfredcamillo.com