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May 5, 2014

Senator Andres Ayala, Co-Chair  
Representative Selim G. Noujaim, Co-Chair  
Regulations Review Committee, Room 011  
State Capitol  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: *Proposed Amendment Concerning Alcoholic Beverages in State Parks and Forest Recreation Areas***

Dear Senator Ayala and Representative Noujaim:

Pursuant to section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I submit for your consideration and approval the enclosed proposal to amend the Department's regulation concerning the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages at Connecticut's State Parks and State Forest recreation areas.

This regulatory proposal is for the convenience of the public to be able to see, in one place, the listing of areas where alcohol is currently prohibited on state park lands. The possession and consumption of alcohol is currently prohibited at seventeen (17) of our 139 State Park and Forest recreation areas. These seventeen areas are the ones enumerated in this proposed regulation. Thirteen (13) of these areas have prohibited alcohol since prior to 1999 (and alcohol possession continues to be prohibited pursuant to CGS 23-4). Four (4) additional areas have been added since 1999 pursuant to the Commissioner's authority enumerated in the Department's regulations at RCSA 23-4-1(e)(2)(D). This proposed regulation will list all seventeen areas in one place, for the first time, providing clearer information for the public to understand in which areas alcohol possession and consumption are prohibited. The proposed regulation also makes technical and conforming changes to the existing regulation.

Attached to this letter, immediately following this cover page, is the proposed regulatory language, along with a statement of purpose for this action.

If there are any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Rob LaFrance, the Department's Legislative Liaison, at 424-3401 (office) or 860-622-1797 (cell). Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan K. Whalen".

Susan K. Whalen, Deputy Commissioner for  
Robert J. Klee, Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Rob LaFrance, DEEP