

Gaetano, Carolyn

From: Cliff <CARTERNUWC@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:51 AM
To: GAETestimony
Subject: Comments of HB6998 section 3

I have recently learned that a law (HB6998 section 3) is being proposed to take land from the CT State Park system available to all state residents and give it to a town (Milford) for parking. Moreover, the size of the property is approximately 4 acres. The proposed dollar amount of payment to the state is nothing. A quick look at www.zillow.com showed many properties for sale that the town could purchase and turn into parking. A cursory investigation of Google™ earth shows several properties in what appear to be flood prone locations. A town purchase and conversion could be considered. In one case about a third of an acre was available for about \$190,000. On this basis the value of this land would more than a half million dollars an acre. In as much as the state is struggling with financing its existing parks, a transfer of land worth approximately \$2,000,000.00 for nothing to a particular town seems inappropriate and a bad precedent. This recommendation comes at a time when the state is proposing cuts to its state parks of approximately \$2 million. If the town of Milford were proposing to purchase land in or near a state park for, say, \$2 million dollars to turn it into a place for bicycles, etc. such a proposal should be seriously considered by discussions with the CT DEEP who might be amenable to discussions given the seriousness of the current CT state park shortfalls; however, to give away property worth \$2 million belonging to the citizens of the state for the benefit of those from one town seems inappropriate and ill advised. I support a "Conveyance Act" which proposes the sale, trade, or giveaway of State lands in various communities, when the Act often includes harmless proposals such as a simple boundary adjustment, but NOT in this case where this is apparently an attempt to give away valuable Public lands to a town for nothing in return

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