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Saturday, April 18, 2015 5:05 PM

AppTestimony

Please submit my testimony to the Appropriations Committee

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

I wish to oppose Section 5 of HB 6825 and 29(b) of the Governor's bill 946. These bills propose removing funds from the Community Investment Act as well as funds for DEEP's current fiscal year open space account.

These funds allow Municipalities and Land Trusts to purchase land for open space to protect one of our most sacred resources which is WATER. "What happens up stream affects what happens down stream." EPA quote.

The CIA investment act leverages millions of matching funds (200% in private, federal and local sources invested back into our communities.)

In our town of Groton 379 acres in four separate parcels have been protected from development by The Groton Open Space Association with the help of the Community Investment Act (CIA). These lands eliminate polluted runoff from entering the reservoirs in Ledyard that runs into the Groton Water protection reservoir system. It has also protected runoff into the Mystic River and Fishers Island and Long Island Sound. (The March 2010 flooding that destroyed numerous highways would have been much worse if development covered with impervious surfaces had covered those areas.) None of this would have been possible without the CIT funds, nor will it be possible in the future unless these funds are restored.

Please Vote NO.

Thanks you, Sidney F. Van Zandt, 3 Front St., P.O. Box 9173, Noank, CT 06340