



## State of Connecticut

### SENATE

SENATE MINORITY WHIP

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**MEMBER**  
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**Sen. Martin Testimony In Support of H.B. 5291**  
**Environment Committee**  
**February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Sen. Kennedy, Representative Albis, and members of the Environment Committee,

I am Senator Henri Martin, and I am testifying in support of House Bill 5291: AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL PHOSPHOROUS ABATEMENT PROJECTS.

This bill creates a level playing field for all municipalities in the State of Connecticut that are required to undertake Phosphorous reduction efforts in order to meet statewide environmental goals.

This specific legislation would enable towns, like those I represent, to be treated equally in the awarding process of Phosphorous Reduction Grants by the State of Connecticut by ensuring that all projects are eligible for 50% of funding and are evaluated on the same basis criteria.

I represent a district that has been greatly impacted by Phosphorus cleanup and removal. The municipalities and the residents I represent are shouldering a significant and costly burden to achieve state environmental standards. H.B. 5291 corrects the inequities of the Phosphorous Reduction Grant Award process and provides a fair environment in which the state can assist municipalities in achieving the set standards without causing an unfair burden in the affected municipalities.

This legislation not only would ease the burden on the affected municipalities, but also would send a positive message to all towns and cities throughout Connecticut – no matter your size, your circumstance, or your financial resources, we will provide a fair environment for municipal assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of H.B. 5291

Best Regards,

Senator Henri Martin  
31<sup>st</sup> District