

OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN



115 Main Street
P.O. Box 96
Voluntown, CT 06384
Telephone: 860 376-5880
Fax: 860 376 - 3295

Testimony of Robert A. Sirpenski, First Selectman, Town of Voluntown in Support of

HB 5693AN ACT REQUIRING NOTICE AND CONTINGENCY PLANS PRIOR TO THE
STATE DRAW DOWN OF LAKES AND PONDS

Environment Committee Public Hearing
Friday, February 27th, 12pm
Room 1D

Chairman Albis, Chairman Kennedy, Members of the Environment Committee, for the record my name is Robert Sirpenski and I am writing to testify in support of HB 5693 AN ACT REQUIRING NOTICE AND CONTINGENCY PLANS PRIOR TO THE STATE DRAW DOWN OF LAKES AND PONDS. Voluntown is a small rural community with several lakes and ponds, such as Glasgo Pond, Beach Pond, and Beach Dale Pond. Many residents live on the shores of these lakes and ponds and are dependent on the lake for their water supply. This past fall Glasgo Pond was drawn down by several feet. Residents who reside on the shores of Glasgo Pond were not given adequate notice of this draw down and that was unacceptable. Lakeside residents were not given time to prepare for the problems that they might encounter with a drawdown of this magnitude. Residents were suddenly faced with having their water supply cut off with no end in sight. The Selectmen's Office was not notified of this drawdown at all. I found out about the draw down when affected residents called my office when they were suddenly out of water. This is totally unacceptable and cannot be allowed to happen in the future. Because of a lack of planning on the part of the State, residents were left without drinking water for an extended period of time and both the affected residents and Town were not prepared to deal with this situation. HB 5693 will prevent an event like this from happening again and will provide contingency plans when things do not go as planned. In closing, I urge you to support the passing of this bill.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Sirpenski
First Selectman