



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Good afternoon Senator Kennedy, Representative Albis, Senator Chapin, Representative Shaban and distinguished members of the Environment Committee. My name is Jonathan Slifka and I am the Governor's Liaison To The Disability Community. I appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony on **Section 6 of Senate Bill 1061**, An Act Concerning the Fiscal Sustainability of State Parks.

As the Governor's Liaison to the Disability Community, this issue is one that I have followed, and will continue to follow closely. I recognize the intent of the proponents, and I understand the concerns as expressed by the affected parties. Within the Governor's Office, we have entered into mutual discussions with both DORS and DEEP to address the concerns that both departments have regarding this very important issue. We respectfully request additional time for those discussions to continue so that both departments can come to a mutually acceptable agreement.

The disability community experiences constant challenges and sometimes seemingly endless barriers in the pursuit of employment. This program as it exists has proven beneficial to many people during the course of its history, and it is important that we not impede the positive progress without due consideration of the consequences. I believe, given the opportunity, both departments can work together with my office as Liaison to the Disability Community to create a solution that will benefit all going forward.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am available for questions upon request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Slifka".

Jonathan Slifka
Governor's Liaison To The Disability Community
Office of Governor Dannel P. Malloy