



Connecticut Chapter  
2074 Park St.  
Hartford, Connecticut 06105  
[www.connecticut.sierraclub.org](http://www.connecticut.sierraclub.org)  
Martin Mador, Legislative Chair

Finance Committee  
April 15, 2015  
Testimony In Vigorous Opposition to  
HB 7055 An Act Concerning Connecticut First, Sections 12-15

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave., Hamden, CT 06518. I am the volunteer Legislative Chair for the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club. I hold a Masters of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Section 12 of HB 7055 would require agencies, when submitting a proposed new regulation to the Regulations Review Committee for approval, to provide information from an inquiry they must conduct comparing the regulation to any federal regulations on similar issues. Sections 13-15 simply add reference to such study to appropriate sections of the CGS.

Expending scarce agency staff time and resources to research federal positions on regulation has essentially no benefit, and would provide nothing useful or informative about proposed regulation in Connecticut. We need to trust the expertise of agencies to craft regulations effective in addressing the issue at hand. There could be many reasons why a state regulation would be stronger, or weaker, than a federal counterpart. A federal regulation would be a baseline applicable to all states, but an individual state may have valid and appropriate reasons, based on local conditions or priorities, to go beyond it.

The Sierra Club finds Sections 12-15 of this bill an odious proposal, intended without doubt to slow or impede the adoption of agency regulation. As it is anti-regulatory, it would work very much against the public interest, and the ability of state agencies to pursue their mandate.

The Sierra Club unconditionally recommends a vote against these 4 sections.