

Gaetano, Carolyn

From: Peter Cooper <pcooper@snet.net>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:25 AM
To: GAETestimony
Cc: Robert.Klee@ct.gov; carmen.colon@ct.gov; attorney.general@ct.gov
Subject: Conveyance Act:(HB 6998)-Rejection of Section 3 and Section 8

Dear Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee

Section 3 relating to Silver Sands State Park and Section 8 relating to the Centennial Watershed Forest are pernicious legislative proposals. If allowed to stand, they would represent the worst possible examples of sound deliberate governmental process.

The beach and other lands of Silver Sands State Park and the significant natural areas which constitute the Centennial Watershed Forest are lands of ALL the citizens of the State of Connecticut. I understand that the DEEP as administrative representative for the protection and stewardship of the lands has already rejected the subject matter contained in Section 3, and further, was not even aware of the proposal of Section 8 to transfer Centennial Watershed Forest land in Fairfield !

I, along with thousands of other Connecticut citizens, were involved in the long and thoughtful coming together of State and local public private and non-profit interests to create and establish the Centennial Watershed Forest. To clandestinely try to undo that bi-partisan collectively arrived at Public Good would be government by stealth. It would be a stick in the eye to the transparent and openly deliberative government we properly expect of our legislature. These are lands imbued with the Public Trust, and legally, they should remain so.

Moreover, who would ever even consider in the future participating with the State in conveying their lands to the government through the open space protection programs! Thus, if these Sections are not stripped from this legislative proposal, the long-term consequences of this back-door undercutting of years and years of collective positive public action will result in a diminished Connecticut.

Please do your Public Duty.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter B. Cooper

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