

Mark B. Walter  
First Selectman

Susan C. Link  
Ernest P. Malavasi  
Selectmen

Office: 860-873-5021  
Fax: 860-873-5025  
Email: [admin@easthaddam.org](mailto:admin@easthaddam.org)

## Selectmen's Office

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING  
EAST HADDAM  
CONNECTICUT  
06423



March 10, 2016

Environment Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT

Reference: RAISED HOUSE BILL NO. 5583  
AN ACT CONCERNING AN AGREEMENT REGARDING ANNUAL WATER LEVEL  
DRAW DOWNS AT BASHAN LAKE IN THE TOWN OF EAST HADDAM

Members of the Environment Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Raised H. B. No. 5583 "An Act Concerning an Agreement Regarding Annual Water Level Draw Downs at Bashan Lake in the Town of East Haddam".

I am writing this testimony in support of H. B. No. 5583. The Town of East Haddam is very involved with the Bashan Lake Association in helping keep the lake water clean for all residents. The Town helps with water runoff needs, clearing of storm drains and diverting water into marsh land. The Town also supports our lakes with monetary contributions to help fund weed control.

The main purpose of the bill is for the Bashan Lake Association and the Town of East Haddam to have the flexibility to determine when and how much the water will be drawn down at Bashan Lake. Lake draw downs are critical in preventing damage to the retaining walls which keep most soil erosion from entering into the lake. Draw downs are also necessary to maintain our weed control measures which assures access to recreational areas, provides a safe environment for all swimmers, prevents hazardous boating situations and protects property values.

The Bashan Lake Association and the Town of East Haddam would be responsible partners in evaluating and accomplishing whatever actions are in the best interest of our lakes. Please don't hesitate to contact me at 860-873-5021 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Walter  
First Selectman

