

Environment Committee

Public Testimony

March 11, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of HOUSE BILL 5583

**March 10, 2016**

**To all this may concern:**

**My name is Nancy Davidson and I am writing in SUPPORT of House Bill 5583 *AN ACT CONCERNING AN AGREEMENT REGARDING ANNUAL WATER LEVEL DRAW DOWNS AT BASHAN LAKE IN THE TOWN OF EAST HADDAM.***

I am a fairly new home owner at Bashan Lake. I do not own property on the lake however I have a right of way to the water and mooring rights. Our legal property owners take very good care of the right of way and the beach area we use. I am writing to support them also. I have attended all the association meeting concerning the Dam since I purchased the property in August 2014. I also work for the Town of Middlefield, and have seen the devastating effect of the “dam project” at Lake Beseck.

Before I purchased my home I did a lot of research on the lakes in Connecticut. Bashan had one of the cleanest waterways and the best maintained properties. This purchase is my retirement and my children’s inheritance.

I am told by longtime residents, the drawdowns are critical to prevent damage to walls that prevent erosion into the lake as well as weed control which is necessary to ensure access to recreation areas and for the safety of all swimmers. With the construction of the new boat launch I am sure the boating traffic will also increase causing many other issues. Being able to control the water draw down is one way the residents can have a say in protecting their properties.

I would like to thank both Sen.Kennedy and Rep. Albis I am told for visiting the lake this past summer and ask for their support in voting the bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

Nancy Davidson, 49 Bailey Rd East Haddam CT 06423