

Environment Committee
Public Testimony
March 11, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of HOUSE BILL 5583

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Kennedy, Representative Albis; Vice Chairs Senator Moore, Representative Arconti; Ranking Members Senator Chapin, Representative Shaban; and esteemed members of the Committee. My name is Phillip Zwick.
- 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.***

For over 50 years my family has enjoyed this pristine crystal clear Bashan Lake and 6 years ago I was blessed to own a waterfront cottage of my own, ever since I could remember every fall the lake was drawn down to protect the docks and structures near the water.

The draw down also had a more vital function and that was to stop invasive weeds such as Cattails & Phragmites which is necessary to ensure access to recreation areas, for the safety of all swimmers, to prevent hazardous boating, and to protect property values.

The past state dam project was extended therefore the explosive invasive weeds overtook almost the entire lake, the BLA association had to pay \$40,000 to control these weeds and there is no guarantee no harm will come to the water with the massive amount of Herbicide used. I strongly urge you to support HOUSE BILL 5583!!!

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

Thank you for your Consideration,
Sincerely,
Phillip Zwick
153 Lakeside Dr.
East Haddam