

SJR#5

JOHN E. HIBBARD
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HEBRON CONNECTICUT
06248-1111

RE: Senate Joint Resolution No.5

RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION
CONCERNING THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE
STATE

I am John E. Hibbard. I reside at 1072 Gilead Street, Hebron Connecticut and I am submitting the following testimony on SJR No 5, LCO No. 1066 on my own behalf.

I have been an advocate for matters in the field of conservation and the environment for over fifty years both professionally and as a retired citizen with emphasis on land preservation and acquisition of land and interests in land for public purposes as State Parks, State Forests, and other areas administered by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

In addition I have been active in the preservation of Agricultural Land at the state level through the Farmland Preservation Program of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and in the town of Hebron.

Over the period of time I have counseled landowners on gifting there land or interests in land to the DEEP and CDA, Raising private funds for the acquisition of said lands and interests in land.

The Proposed Amendment to the State Constitution Concerning the Environment and Natural Resources of the State would provide additional protection of natural resource, agricultural and recreational values..

This protection would provide reassurance to persons who have previously given properties for public purposes and give others to continue this long tradition of giving.

The Amendment should be inclusive in nature:

1. Provide adequate compensation for lands being sold or conveyed.
2. Public hearings are held on proposed on each proposed sale of conveyance at the local level.
3. That separate bills are considered for individual proposals.
4. That the two thirds vote by the General be retained.

I urge the Committee on the Environment to Support a Proposed Amendment to the State Constitution.

I consider that this issue is an very important issue for the General assembly to consider in the current Session.

I appreciate the opportunity to present my views.

John Hibbard