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March 11, 2016 An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water.

To the Planning and Development Committee:

I write in support of the substituted language offered by Sen. Beth Bye. I especially support provisions to protect residents during a declared Drought Advisory. I am also in favor of suspending any new large capacity agreements until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issues of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds. It seems clear to me that many of these issues would be avoided with the re-establishment of a citizen MDC watch dog committee.

Thank you for your consideration of protecting a most valuable resource—water.