

March 9, 2016  
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Subject: Support for Substitute **SB 422: An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water**

To: [pctestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:pctestimony@cga.ct.gov)

To: Senator Osten and Representative Miller and the other Members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am writing to express my support for SB 422. Our water is one of our most important and valuable resources. Our home also abuts MDC property and we have always considered them a good neighbor. It's disconcerting to hear that this deal was made without public support. It is my position that our water it should NOT be privatized. I therefore do not support having a bottling plant in Bloomfield, CT.

It is my position that we need to:

- **Rescind water rate discounts for water bottlers.** They extract large amounts of our municipal water and spring water, fill the environment with plastic pollution, and profit while citizens are conserving and paying more.
- **Rescind the Special Sewer Service Charge discount for water bottlers (now known as the Clean Water Project Charge).** CT ratepayers have paid for years to build infrastructure for clean water; no discounts for corporations.
- **Protect residents, not water bottlers during a drought.** If the DPH declares a Drought Advisory, the production of bottled water in CT needs to stop.
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watchdog committee.**
- **Impose a moratorium on any new large capacity agreements** until the State Water Plan is completed and addresses the issue of water bottling companies diverting water out of watersheds.
- MDC and municipalities need to **provide greater transparency by including public opinion in their decisions** whenever a high volume industrial use of our potable water supply is proposed.

I urge you to support substitute SB422.

Catherine & Gregory Weaver