

Support for Substitute SB 422

Dennis Gallant

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Bloomfield, CT 06002

Subject: Proposed Substitute Bill No. 422 LCO No. 2975.

Title: An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and Sellers of Bottled Water

Hearing date: March 11, 2016

Planning and Development Committee;

I am writing in support of Proposed Substitute Bill No. 422 LCO No. 2975. An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and Sellers of Bottled Water. I believe that our local water is a community resource we all own, not a commercial asset to be privatized and sold out of state for corporate profit. I ask that this legislation be passed in order to address the following concerns.

1. Protect residents, not water bottlers during a drought - If the DPH declares a Drought Advisory, the production of bottled water for export out of state needs to stop.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch dog committee
5. 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.

Thank you for considering my concerns in this matter.

Denis Gallant

