

March 8, 2016

Substitute SB 422: An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water

Hearing date: Friday, March 11, 2016

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

I am a citizen of West Hartford and just became aware that there is a company who wants to buy water from the reservoir for purposes of bottling and selling. Please do not allow for-profit agencies to do this. It should be reserved for the people of this area, or perhaps to help other American citizens who actually NEED water, but not to be sold for money.

Another thing: the plastic used in water bottles is thought to leach into the water while it is being stored in hot trucks or storage facilities. Does the state want to allow water to be packaged in bottles that are possibly cancer-causing to humans? Please read the below paragraphs from: <https://www.banthebottle.net/articles/7-bottled-water-myths-busted/>.

“**The fact of the matter is...** Bottled water may be hurting your health. A new study suggests plastic bottles release small amounts of chemicals over long periods of time. The longer water is stored in plastic bottles, the higher the concentration of a potentially harmful chemical, a new study suggests.

The research involved 132 brands of bottled water from 28 countries produced in containers made from polyethylene terephthalate, or PET.

Research found that the concentration of certain chemicals, such as antimony, increases the longer the water sits in the plastic bottle. It increases over time because the plastic is leaching chemicals into the water. Antimony is a white metallic element that in small doses can cause nausea, dizziness and depression. In large doses, it can be fatal.

Antimony is similar chemically to lead. It is also a potentially toxic trace element.

(Resource: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/story/2006/12/21/bottle-study.html>)...

The fact of the matter is... Multinational corporations are stepping in to purchase groundwater and distribution rights wherever they can, and the bottled water industry is an important component in their drive to commoditize what many feel is a basic human right: the access to safe and affordable water.

In the documentary film *Thirst*, authors Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman demonstrated the rapid worldwide privatization of municipal water supplies, and the effect these purchases are having on local economies.

Water is being called the “Blue Gold” of the 21st century. Thanks to increasing urbanization and population, shifting climates and industrial pollution, fresh water is becoming humanity’s most precious resource...

Bottled water produces up to 1.5 million tons of plastic waste per year. According to [Food and Water Watch](#), that plastic requires up to 47 million gallons of oil per year to produce.”

Thank you for your time. I urge you to support substitute SB422.

Sincerely,

Eve Burtness