

Joan Spear 87 Cathole Road Bantam, CT 06750 Box1@Joanspear.com

March 10, 2016

RE: Support for Substitute SBB 422: An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers of Bottled Water

To the Planning and Development Committee,

I am writing to support Senator Bye's **substituted bill**.

I live in Litchfield County. I believe the water in Connecticut needs to be attended to and protected by all residents, not just by those in an affected area.

I support protection of 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.

I do not support 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.

I do not support *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.

I support the re-establishment of a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch-dog committee.

I support 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.

I also believe that water filtration systems at point of use are better for our environment than drinking bottled water, sending our water out of state and dealing with plastic bottles in our landfills.

Sincerely,

Joan Spear