

**An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public
Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and the Sellers
of Bottled Water**

Support for Substitute SB 422

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For the attention of the Planning and Development Committee.

“Bloomfield CT... a Water Scandal as big as Flint Michigan”

This is the last headline I, and I expect you, would want to have to read, but if the bottling plant proposed for Bloomfield is successful, with all the implications and unintended consequences, then the CT legislature risk exactly that...as well as the accusation of being ‘asleep at the wheel’.

I have listed below some of the many reasons this is such a bad idea...and all the reasons why you need to support Beth Bye’s proposed Bill.

- **It is your responsibility to 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.... this is currently not required
- **Please consider rescinding 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. In our current environmental situation, giving incentives to use MORE water is more than corporate welfare it is malfeasance.
- **The fact that there is a Special *Sewer Service Charge* discount for water bottlers (now known as the *Clean Water Project Charge*) needs to change...please rescind this.** CT ratepayers have paid for years to build infrastructure for clean water; there should be no discounts for corporations, who have contributed nothing to this effort.
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watchdog committee.** The MDC and its arcane and secretive business practices are an embarrassment to the name. If steps are not taken to provide some oversight (with teeth)...then just sit back and watch those headlines appear....
- **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. The undue haste to push this deal through, by both the MDC and Bloomfield town officials, before any

potential sensible legislation, is a clue that no such thing should be allowed to happen.