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Support for Senator Beth Bye's Substitute "Water Bill" - SB 422

Date of Legislative Hearing: Friday, March 11, 2016

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

To the Planning and Development Committee:

The bill as raised in the committee requires revision. Support the raised bill but with substitute language.

Please give consideration to the following specific points:

- **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.
- **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.
- **Re-establish a citizen MDC (Metropolitan District Commission) watch dog 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.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Lynn Goldfarb