

To: Planning and Development Committee  
From: Sheri Slobin Shea, 47 Hartwell Rd, West Hartford CT 06117

Re: Support for Substitute SB 422

Legislative hearing Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am

As a resident of West Hartford for 54 years, I value and appreciate our precious and delicious tap water and the public sewer system that is maintained by the MDC. I believe we should be protecting our residents over a commercial profit-making water bottling company. **During a drought, water bottlers should have to cut back before residents.**

As a taxpayer and resident of an MDC water town, I have helped pay for the infrastructure along with my neighbors and it is not fair that a profit-making entity gets to benefit off our fees. To make matters even worse, the MDC decided to enact a large user discount only after the Niagara Bottling Company filed their capacity letter. **This bill should rescind all discounts to commercial users. In addition, this bill should also rescind the *Special Sewer Service Charge* discount for water bottlers now known as the *Clean Water Project Charge*.** To reiterate, the citizens have been paying for years to build infrastructure for clean water and treatment of sewage and companies should not profit off our hard earned money.

There is no checks and balances system to the MDC's authority and power. This must be rectified. Between the political nature of the board appointed positions and the outrageous salary of the CEO, it's no wonder our rates keep going up and it's certainly suspect about how this deal with Niagara almost slipped past everyone. **Please Re-establish a citizen MDC watchdog committee.** The public needs someone they can count on and trust to make the dealings of the MDC transparent.

While the State Water Plan is completed and all issues concerning water bottling companies diverting water out of our watersheds has been thoroughly investigated, please **impose a moratorium on any new large capacity agreements.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheri Slobin Shea