

**Testimony**  
**George S. Logan, Director-Environmental Management & Government Relations**  
**Aquarion Water Company**  
**Before the Public Health Committee**  
**March 7, 2016**

**RE: HB-5540 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE WATER PLAN**

Aquarion Water Company supports HB-5540 which addresses current issues with the approval process. This bill will further strengthen the overall development of a state water plan as outlined in Public Act 14-163.

As a public water supply company based in Bridgeport, Connecticut, we serve more than 625,000 people in 51 cities and towns throughout Connecticut. Aquarion Water Company is the largest investor-owned water utility in New England and among the seven largest in the U.S. We strive to act as a responsible steward of the environment, assist the communities we serve and promote environmentally sustainable practices.

Currently, Aquarion Water Company actively participates in discussions regarding the development of the state water plan. We have a member seat on the Water Planning Council's (WPC) Policy Work Group. In addition, we support the efforts of the WPC's steering committee, the WPC Advisory Group, and the Technical & Science Work Group.

Aquarion Water Company is supportive of efforts to develop a state water plan that ensures the process is collaborative among stakeholder; relies on objective data and science; protects the environment; protects the availability of public water supplies needed for present and future public health, safety, and economic development needs.

HB-5540 ensures that the final version of the proposed state water plan is thoroughly reviewed/vetted by the WPC before it is sent to the General Assembly for approval.

We urge your support of HB-5540 to ensure that development of the state water plan is collaborative and transparent throughout the process and is approved by the affirmative action of the General Assembly.

Thank you.