

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of House Bill 5583 allowing the town of East Haddam and the Bashan Lake Association to have the ability to say when and how much the level of the water will be drawn down on Bashan Lake on a yearly basis.

The residents of Bashan Lake are passionate about the preservation of our beautiful Lake. Many of us have summered on Bashan Lake our entire lifetimes and have invested years of hard work and money into our homes and summer cottages. The respect and love the residents have for our once pristine lake has been demonstrated time and time again, from policing hazardous conditions to town meetings, to raising tens of thousands of dollars on a moments notice for the good of our Lake.

Allowing residents to have a say in the water levels will benefit our Lake in many ways, from safe boating to weed control which is crucial at this time. Contamination of the water due to erosion and run off will be reduced. Property damage and the value of our properties will be maintained.

It has been proven time and again, that allowing people to have a voice in concerns, whether in their workplace or their own lives, creates a happy cohesive existence for many. As our Governor continues to cut budgets in the state of CT, I am sure his biggest concern is not going to be the health of lakes and ponds. Allowing the residents of Bashan Lake control of the water level will only assist in reducing some of the financial burden of State Committees, DEP and DEEP.

We are seriously PROUD of Bashan Lake and hope you will consider House Bill 5583 as a viable alternative for the State of CT.

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