



**Connecticut Fund  
for the Environment**

**Save the Sound®**

**Testimony of Connecticut Fund for the Environment**

**Before the Commerce Committee**

***In opposition to Proposed Senate Bill No. 128***

**AN ACT EXEMPTING NEW BUSINESSES FROM STATE REGULATION**

**Submitted by John M. Looney, Esq.**

**Staff Attorney**

**February 23, 2017**

*Connecticut Fund for the Environment (CFE) is a non-profit organization with over 4,700 members statewide. The mission of CFE, and its bi-state program Save the Sound, is to protect and improve the land, air, and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring citizens together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.*

Dear Senator Hartley, Senator Frantz, Representative Simmons and honorable members of the Commerce Committee:

Connecticut Fund for the Environment and its bi-state program Save the Sound (CFE/Save the Sound) expresses its opposition to Proposed Senate Bill No. 128 which seeks to exempt Connecticut-based startup companies from state regulation for the first two years of operation. Although this proposed bill contains few words, its potential impacts on the citizens, the environment, and the natural resources of the State of Connecticut are enormous and long lasting.

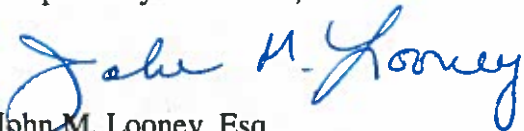
In an attempt to create a “business friendly” atmosphere in Connecticut, the proposed bill does so to the detriment of the public health and safety. The proposed bill would allow Connecticut-based startup companies to operate without compliance with numerous regulations promulgated by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Department of Public Health to

protect the public health, safety, and the environment. The proposed bill would also exempt these startup companies from compliance with numerous regulations promulgated and enforced by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to guard Connecticut citizens from unfair and deceptive business practices.

The above are just a limited example of the potential problems that the exemption from state regulations by startup companies could cause. Although proposed in an attempt to encourage the business climate in this state, the long lasting detrimental consequences of such a law to the citizens and the environment of Connecticut outweigh any perceived benefit of the proposed law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the above testimony in opposition to Proposed Bill No. 128.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John M. Looney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "L".

John M. Looney, Esq.  
Staff Attorney Connecticut Fund for the Environment  
900 Chapel Street  
New Haven, CT 06510  
203-787-0646 ext. 117  
[jlooney@ctenvironment.org](mailto:jlooney@ctenvironment.org)