Testimony from State Representative Susan Johnson
In Support of **HB 6329 An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing Waste in Connecticut**

Good afternoon Chairs Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, Representative Demicco and Members of the Environment Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the record.

I am writing in strong support of HB 6329 because of the need to protect the health of citizens in our state. During the process of extraction, dangerous chemicals are pumped into the ground, thus contaminating soil, air and water sources. Many regions with large amounts of extraction sites are finding higher levels of airborne pollutants such as carcinogens in the area, as well as polluted sources of water including underground reservoirs, rivers and lakes. Moreover, nearby states such as New York and Pennsylvania have illustrated that instances of contamination and chemical spills are often a result of a lack of resources in place to effectively manage the toxic wastes that fracking produces.

In addition to the harm that fracking places on people and animals residing near extraction sites, it also decreases the value of land, essentially hurting the economy and public infrastructure. Windham recently passed a similar ordinance banning extractions of oil and gas drilling in the area to demonstrate our immense support of a complete ban of fracking in the state and our desire to protect our environment. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill and assure citizens that our state's land and water will be preserved.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

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