To the Chairmen: Sen. Ted Kennedy Jr., Sen. Craig Miner, Rep. Mike Demicco, And Honorable Members of the Committee:

*Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is a statewide, non-profit coalition of river organizations, individuals, and businesses formed to protect Connecticut's waters by promoting sound water policies, uniting and strengthening the state's many river groups, and providing education on water stewardship.*

Leaking underground storage tanks for heating oil, gasoline, and other contaminants have polluted aquifers across the state. Rivers Alliance supports all feasible efforts to stem the flow of this waste. This bill requires insurers to continue coverage of such tanks if the insured party has made all required payments. It says nothing about the cost of the policy. We recommend that, if any premium increase is to be allowed, that it be tied to some widely accepted index, such as increases in social security payments. Pollution of water affects the public generally, not just the property owner.

We support this important bill.

Thank you.

Margaret Miner, Executive Director
Litchfield, CT rivers@riversalliance.org 860-361-9349 or 293-788-5161