



Public Hearing – March 14, 2018  
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Robert Klee

**Senate Bill No. 342 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE THRESHOLD FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S REVIEW OF ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised Senate Bill No. 342. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) offers the following testimony.

This bill would enable implementation of alternative sewage treatment technology on septic system sites (also known as subsurface sewage disposal systems) that already fall within the regulatory jurisdiction of the CT Department of Public Health (DPH). While DEEP would continue to authorize and regulate larger scale alternative sewage treatment systems, SB 342 would clarify the regulatory threshold (i.e., DEEP versus DPH) for jurisdiction over alternative sewage treatment systems in CT as 7,500 gallons per day (gpd). DEEP understands that DPH may currently lack resources to execute this regulatory oversight, and urges this Committee to consider the DPH testimony on this matter.

It is worth noting that under CGS Section 19a-35a, regulation of alternative onsite sewage treatment systems by DPH is for alternative onsite sewage treatment systems with capacities of 5,000 gallons or less per day. Therefore, in keeping with the intent of this bill and to avoid future confusion, the first sentence of Senate Bill No. 342 should be amended to read: "Notwithstanding any provision of the Public Health Code or title 19a, 22a or 25 of the general statutes..."

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Lee Sawyer at 860-424-3332 or Lee.Sawyer@ct.gov.