FOR THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY OF RIVERS ALLIANCE OF CONNECTICUT
March 5, 2018

HB 5264 AA Permitting Businesses to Seek and Opinion of the Attorney General Regarding the State Agency Regulations

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 educating the public about the importance of water stewardship.

And Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

Rivers Alliance of Connecticut asks you NOT to move this bill forward. There are very few states in which the legislative branch of government has as much authority over administration-branch regulations as in Connecticut. It is extremely difficult in this state to pass a regulation. Citizens’ representatives in the legislature essentially have veto power over proposed regulations. This bill would add another barrier to regulatory protection of natural resources. It would also create a conflict of interest in the AG’s office between its duty to its client (the state) and any number of new clients wanting the AG to represent them against the state.

I apologize for not attending this hearing in person. A serious conflict arose.

Thank you for your consideration and care for the environment of Connecticut

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