



TOWN OF HAMDEN ENERGY USE & CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION

**Environment Committee
March 15, 2018**

SB425 An Act Concerning LED Light Pollution in the State

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave. Hamden, CT. I have a Masters in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. I have served as the legislative and political chair for the Sierra Club in the state for a decade, and have submitted testimony on 400 bills. This testimony is submitted in my role as Chair of the Hamden Energy Use and Climate Change Commission. The commission, created by town ordinance in 2005, has voted to endorse the following.

Light pollution is recognized as an important environmental consideration. Hamden has been struggling with UI over upgrading our obsolete high pressure sodium street lights to LEDs. Both the quality of the light and the electrical consumption are important. We have learned that requiring lights to have a color temperature of 2700K (preferred), but no higher than 3000k, at least in residential neighborhoods, is the current standard.

So we endorse SB425 as long as these standards are explicitly included in the bill. There is simply no reason or excuse for installing higher k color temperature bulbs, at least for residential streets. To meet the public interest, this must be the standard for all residential street lights installed in cities and towns in the state, regardless of the source of funding.