

Dear Environment Committee member,

I wrote to you in opposition to SB 427, now I am writing in support of three other bills to help protect our natural resources

In SUPPORT of SB 426—AAC ABANDONED FISHING GEAR IN LONG ISLAND SOUND

We need better legislation to facilitate the removal of abandoned fishing gear in Long Island Sound that is killing fish, crabs and lobsters. I urge you to pass SB 426 to ease restrictions on who can retrieve abandoned lobster pots in Connecticut waters.

In SUPPORT of SB 341—AAC CLOTHING FIBER POLLUTION

Research has now shown that microfibers are a dangerous microplastic, released from synthetic material such as polyester, nylon, acrylic, and rayon, when garments are washed.

The microfibers can cause starvation and reproductive failure in certain organisms; they are ingested by species that humans consume, and we don't know what consequence that will have for us.

I urge you to hold apparel companies responsible for the effects of their products through this legislation.

In SUPPORT of SB 343—AAC THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE SAFETY PLANS OF CERTAIN CHEMICAL FACILITIES IN THE STATE AND RESIDENTS OF DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES

I urge you to pass this bill to require updated safety plans for certain chemical facilities that are at risk of coastal and river flooding and severe weather events that would release toxic mixture into waters and soil.

It would also establish a Climate Justice Working Group. Many of these chemical facilities are in low-income areas that don't have resources or options available to address flooding events that would cause disaster from chemical spills. The Long Island Blue Plan Inventory lists 17 petroleum terminals located primarily in Bridgeport and New Haven. Plans should be updated and shared with the communities that don't have resources or options available to address flooding event responses.

I ask that through these three bills you continue to protect the health of the residents of Connecticut, our environment, and Long Island Sound.

Sincerely,

Ms. Clarice Begemann

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