

March 12, 2018

Environment Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
State Capitol, Legislative Office Building, Room 3200
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: **OPPOSE RAISED SB 427: "AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC TRUST COMPONENTS OF THE STATE WATER PLAN"**

As a citizen of West Hartford and a woman born and raised in Connecticut, I strongly oppose modifications of CT Statute Section 22a-15 to exempt private drinking wells from the public trust protections for our water and other natural resources.

"Private" drinking wells are all part of the interconnected system of groundwater in our state and beyond. "Private" is a legal construction that does not match reality – these wells are hydrologically connected to all public sources of water and must be given the same protections under our state's codification of the public trust doctrine.

Privatization of our water is the *WRONG DECISION* and must be avoided at all costs, including for the short-sighted sake of commerce. We live in risky times where global privatization of water threatens the ability of many communities to access their own water resources in the future. Connecticut must not follow this dangerous trend. Any compromise to these protections is **unconscionable** and must not be allowed.

In Connecticut, we can be **LEADERS** of thoughtfully stewarding the natural resources of our state based on a balanced and scientific approach to state water decisions. Let's inspire public confidence in our political leaders to do the right thing, provide continued legal protection of all our waters from corporate control.

Our water is a resource to be protected and stewarded for all *FOR ALL TIME* so that we have these invaluable, irreplaceable resources for future use.

Respectfully,
Lisa Galinski
29 Walkley Rd
West Hartford, CT