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Re: SB 427: AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC TRUST COMPONENTS OF THE STATE WATER PLAN



From: jimglowienka@optonline.net

To: envtestimony@cga.ct.gov

To the Honorable Senator Ted Kennedy Jr., Senator Craig Miner, and Representative Mike Demicco:

As one of Trout Unlimited's long-time leaders in Connecticut and Board member of the 69-year old Laurel Bank Fishing Club, I am particularly concerned by the language proposed in SB 427: An Act Concerning Public Trust Components Of The State Water Plan, that alters the public trust protections to the State's waters.

The mission of Trout Unlimited is cold-water conservation in America, which means we focus on protection, reconnection, restoration and sustainability for habitat for salmonids. Laurel Bank is committed to providing fishing recreation on the Shepaug River as it runs through the Roxbury Land Trust properties, with whom LBFC has an active and engaged partnership.

By proposing the exclusion of consumers of large amounts of water in Connecticut, i.e., water companies and golf courses, from the regulations in the State Water Plan, you will marginalize all other efforts to protect this public resource for the rest of the State and its citizens. It is hard to accept the logic that all the actions of large water consumers would not impact the State's water, a resource that is supposed to be protected by the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act, i.e., protecting our "natural resources from unreasonable pollution, impairment or destruction". I also don't believe this exclusionary move would stand the test of the voters, should they be fully briefed on its implications for them. Transparency of our government and its elected officials is required here.

I urge you to remove this exclusion language from SB 427 and require ANY user of CT water to be governed by the reasonable and reasoned constraints of the State Water Plan.

Regards,

Jim Glowienka

President, Mianus Chapter #258

Trout Unlimited