

**Linda Pagani**  
Bloomfield, CT

Testimony submitted to the Environment Committee  
for the public hearing on March 14, 2018

In opposition to **Raised Bill No. 427 LCO No. 2088:**  
An Act Concerning Public Trust Components of the State Water Plan.

Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, Representative Demicco, and Members of the Environment Committee,

I oppose **Raised Bill No. 427, LCO No. 2088**, AAC Public Trust Components of the State Water Plan.

Water is a natural resource held in the public trust for the benefit of the people and the environment of Connecticut. There should be no statutory exemptions, including private drinking wells.

The State Water Plan has been thoroughly researched, discussed, and commented on. The concept of "water" in the Plan refers to all water in the state of Connecticut. Again, there should be no exceptions to this fundamental principle.

Since 1971, the existing statute (Section 22a-15) has protected our water and other natural resources for current and future residents of the state. It has been clearly and soundly established as a basis for environmental protection, and I believe it should remain intact.

The Connecticut State Water Plan seeks to balance water use for all needs. This includes source water for private wells. The Plan consolidates scientific information about the state's water, in accordance with the legislature's mandates delineated in Public Act 14-163. That scientific data, along with careful study of current policies and regulations, guided the stakeholders and consultants who developed the Plan.

This bill begins to undermine the Plan before it's even adopted.

Please reject Raised Bill 427.

Thank you for your consideration.

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