

Dear Environment Committee members,

I'm writing to express my concern about the proposed amendment regarding "private drinking wells" and the public trust. The suggested wording is, in my view, ambiguous and dangerous, and opens the door to private companies draining the water table for private profit. What would prevent some big corporation from coming in to Connecticut and drilling a massive well on private property next door to Middletown's municipal wells, which provide the lion's share of city's drinking water?

Furthermore, the groundwater and the water table are part of the public trust, as are the lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands that grace our lovely state and country. I should not, as a private citizen, be allowed to pollute the groundwater or the water table by pouring toxic waste into a well on my private property, just as I should not be allowed to dump pollutants into a river or lake. What I put into my own body is my own business. But what I put into a well is everyone's business. And when I threaten to take everyone's water, that is everyone's business too.

Please do not allow the proposed wording change.

Sincerely,

William R. Pinch
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