



Connecticut Fund  
for the Environment  

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Save the Sound®

Public Health Committee

Public Hearing - March 20, 2018

HB 5154 – AAC Water Usage and Conservation During Drought Conditions

*Connecticut Fund for the Environment is a non-profit environmental organization with thousands of members statewide. The mission of CFE, and its bi-state program Save the Sound, is to protect and improve the land, air, and water of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We use legal and scientific expertise and bring people together to achieve results that benefit our environment for current and future generations.*

Connecticut Fund for the Environment and its bi-state program Save the Sound (CFE/Save the Sound) writes in support of the review to be done by the Water Planning Council of state and local authorizations concerning drought events in this state, including, but not limited to, state and local processes and authorities for issuance of any drought advisory, watch, warning or emergency and any attendant voluntary or mandatory water use restrictions during these situations. During drought conditions, it is important for residents to know “who does what” and the timing and specifics of various actions.

It is also important to note that during a drought, there are variances in severity and needs within the state and within regions making it difficult, if not impossible, to have a “homogeneous” plan of action for everyone. There is no “one right solution” for all situations in all areas.

The compilation of information on the authorities and processes needed to address conservation measures during drought conditions is necessary to efficient and orderly planning and execution of activities needed to improve or remedy the situation.

We urge the Public Health Committee to move forward on this concept.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Karen Burnaska, Water Projects Coordinator