



**For the Environment & Commerce Committees
Testimony of Alicea Charamut, Executive Director
March 5, 2020**

Rivers Alliance was formed to fight for sound water policies at the state and federal levels, to provide education on water resources, and to advocate for any person or group striving to protect water. If you want clean, free-flowing and healthy rivers, and high-quality drinking water, Rivers Alliance is here to help.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the following raised bills before you today.

SB-293 AA ESTABLISHING A RELEASE-BASED PROPERTY REMEDIATION PROGRAM, Support with modifications

SB-281 AAC VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PROPERTY TRANSFER LAW, Support with modifications

Rivers Alliance is in support of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) moving toward a release-based program. A release-based program would require that contamination be addressed when it occurs, resulting in more and timely cleanups.

Rivers Alliance supports all of the key changes and recommendations so excellently and comprehensively put forth by the Connecticut Fund for the Environment (CFE) in their testimony and joined them as a signatory. We are submitting additional testimony in order to emphasize the importance of transparency for the public. Rivers Alliance has consistently defended the public's right to protect their natural resources. It is very important that the legislation require that information about all spills be publically available on DEEP's website. Concerned citizens should be able to easily access information about a spill and track the progress of the cleanup.

Thank you for your consideration.