

Cheryl A. Baker  
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Ashford, CT 06278

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7 March 2021

RE: Environment Committee Testimony, HB 6441, and 3/8

Dear Senator Cohen, Representative Borer, and members of the Environment Committee,

I'm writing to ask that you support HB 6441 which provides municipalities with tools to fund climate adaptation and resilience projects, following the recommendations of the Governor's Council on Climate Change.

Section 3 of the bill is especially of interest, as it provides municipalities with an option to establish a buyer's conveyance fee to fund land stewardship, climate resilience, other environmental projects, and possibly sharing fiscal responsibility for unfunded mandates regarding the Community Investment Act in our small rural community.

The Town of Ashford, where I reside and am a taxpayer, could use these funds to support local projects including protections of wetlands draining into the Willimantic Reservoir, abatement of non-native invasive plants, and land acquisitions for further protection of the Willimantic Reservoir drainage basin after fulfilling CIA requirements.

Adoption of the program by town ordinance is optional, and it costs the state nothing.

Please support HB 6441 and give our community the opportunity to decide whether to establish this funding program.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Baker

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