

To: The Environment Committee
From: Darien Pollinator Pathway
Re: HB 6441 AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

March 6, 2021

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

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify in support of HB 6441 AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION which provides municipalities with tools to fund climate adaptation and resilience projects, following the recommendations of the Governor's Council on Climate Change.

In particular, Section 3 of the bill provides municipalities an option to establish a buyer's conveyance fee to fund land stewardship, climate resilience, and other environmental projects in our community.

In Darien, these funds would be welcome support for our efforts to restore habitat which also restores our soil and improves our air and water, in short helps mitigate the harm to our environment from ongoing development, emissions and pesticide usage. Our organization along with others, such as the Land Trust and the Beautification Commission, are working hard towards sustainable landscaping and land use. Similar initiatives at a municipal level would enhance these efforts. As residents see our towns leading by example, they are more inclined to adopt practices that don't harm our environment and in fact actively help it.

Adoption of the program by municipalities is optional, and costs the state nothing.

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

Sincerely,

Juliet Cain
Darien Pollinator Pathway
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