

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

I am writing on behalf of Menunkatuck Audubon Society, the local chapter of National Audubon Society for Orange, West Haven, New Haven, Woodbridge, East Haven, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, and Madison.

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.

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

In the Menunkatuck chapter area, towns could use these funds to support local projects including: increasing access to parks and park stewardship, adding critical open space, and helping cover the expenses involved in mitigating the effects of sea level rise. For our shoreline towns this is especially important.

Adoption of the program by towns 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,

Dennis Riordan

President

Menunkatuck Audubon Society

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