



Legislative Testimony of Operation Fuel

The Environment Committee

March 8, 2021

Regarding [House Bill 6441](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Operation Fuel **supports House Bill 6441** as a means to further move Connecticut towards establishing tools such as private investment to support the next-step implementation of climate change adaptation and resiliency and supporting municipal environmental infrastructure maintenance.

I had the distinct pleasure of serving on the Governor's Council on Climate Change. One of the recommendations out of that process, is to address the Green Bank's role in providing environmental infrastructure finance solutions. With the current success of the Nation's first GreenBank, CT continues to serve as a model for other jurisdictions, amplifying energy affordability and now will expand its ability to address our water and waste water infrastructure, resulting in more private and federal investment.

Operation Fuel partners with municipal governments across the State and also supports the municipal funding option for climate resilience. Sadly, I have seen the tough decisions that municipal governments have to make during their budget processes. Unfortunately, Social, Senior and Human Services, are usually first to get cut to the detriment of local citizens. Any effort that will support local municipalities, ability to set aside funds for additional tree plantings and environmental infrastructure and maintenance, aides in other areas of local management.

Thank you,

Brenda Watson
Executive Director
Operation Fuel