

Rev. Nancy Leckerling
19 Grove Avenue
Madison, CT 06443

March 18, 2021

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 1047: An Act Concerning Insurance And Climate Change

Dear Honorable Sen. Lesser, Honorable Rep. Wood and Esteemed Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 1047, An Act Concerning Insurance And Climate Change. I urge your support on this bill because of my concern about the planet's climate crisis. I have six grandchildren and so have become an activist paying attention to the climate crisis and advocating for care of our Earth and for climate justice. I want the planet to be "liveable" for my grandchildren and their children. Toward that end, we must shift from extractive industries (fossil fuels) to renewable energy to meet reasonable standards, like Governor Lamont's, for sustainability in our State. For many years, my father owned an insurance agency, A.J Tilden in Waterbury, so I know the important part that insurance plays in facilitating companies to be able to operate. The role that our state's "flagship" insurance industry plays in driving the climate crisis must be understood and mitigated. Our planet is in a perilous position and we cannot afford to expand the production of oil and gas and to continue to support coal in our country if we are going to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, in alignment with the Paris COP Agreement.

This bill will deepen our understanding of the insurance industry investments in fossil fuel companies, the insurance they provide for fossil fuel projects, the risks associated, and will accelerate the transition away from climate-destroying fossil fuels.

Senate Bill 1047 goes a long way toward addressing the climate crisis and I urge you to support and pass it. Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment in support of this bill and in support of a well-protected climate future for the citizens of Connecticut, and for all you do toward that end.

Sincerely,
Rev. Nancy Leckerling
Madison, CT 06443