

**Government Administration and Elections Committee**  
**JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT**

**Bill No.:** SB-1117

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVEYANCE OF A PARCEL OF STATE LAND

**Title:** IN THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE.

**Vote Date:** 5/19/2021

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 5/14/2021

**File No.:** 745

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

**SPONSORS OF BILL:**

The Government Administration and Elections Committee

**REASONS FOR BILL:**

To convey a parcel of state land in the town of Cheshire to the town of Cheshire for a school bus depot.

**RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Sylvia Nichols, Cheshire Town Council at Large:**

Ms. Nichols supports the conveyance of a 3+ acre parcel of land from the State of Connecticut to the Town of Cheshire. Starting in 1984, the Town has leased the parcel for specific use as the bus depot for a fleet of vehicles operated to transport 4,200 Cheshire students. Each lease is \$1.00 for a five-year term. The Town of Cheshire has continuously maintained and improved the property to include upgrading the septic system and new building construction in 2020. They most recently received approval from the State to further their investment in the property via paving, lighting, and fencing upgrades to improve the safety and appearance of the property by the end of 2021.

This conveyance is a common-sense solution to Ms. Nichols as nothing material will change on the property. The Town of Cheshire will continue to function as an acceptable neighbor to the nearby State Prison property. Most importantly, this conveyance will liberate both the Town and the State from cyclical and performative negotiations that are unprofitable and

burdensome to both parties.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Margaret Miner, Former Executive Director, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut:**

Ms. Miner does not expressly object to this bill. She requests the Committee take a wait and see approach as the Town of Cheshire recently requested the conveyance of 48 acres of high-quality source-water land for economic development purposes. As an effort to assure protect natural and economic resources for the public benefit, Ms. Miner suggests placing extra attention on how the Town utilizes its new conveyances and current land-use policies before making additional decisions.

**Reported by: Kate Hamilton**

**Date: May 19, 2021**