



**For the Environment Committee
Testimony of Alicea Charamut, Executive Director
February 15, 2023**

Rivers Alliance was formed to fight for sound water policies at the state and federal levels, to provide education on water resources, and to advocate for any person or group striving to protect water. If you want clean, free-flowing and healthy rivers, and high-quality drinking water, Rivers Alliance is here to help.

SB 964 AN ACT CONCERNING CONSENT ORDERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION– Oppose

The Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's authority to issue and revoke consent orders should not be compromised, therefore, we strongly oppose this bill. A consent order is not a contract but a final order of the Commissioner. Undermining this authority and allowing a party to bypass the administrative process will make fixing serious environmental problems that jeopardize public health and economic development more difficult.

We strongly urge the committee not to allow this bill to move forward. Thank you.