



March 2, 2020

Testimony of The Connecticut Audubon Society regarding HB 5008, An Act Concerning the Establishment of High Performance Green Building Standards for Voluntary Adoption by Municipalities

The Connecticut Audubon Society would like to express our strong support for H.B. 5008 “An Act Concerning the Establishment of High Performance Green Building Standards for Voluntary Adoption by Municipalities.” Climate change is an over-arching threat to Connecticut’s birds, other wildlife and their habitats. This proposed legislation gives towns a voluntary opportunity to adopt a standardized high-performance building standard that lowers the environmental impact of buildings. This is something that is already available to municipalities in New York and Massachusetts.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, buildings are responsible for approximately 40% of the energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. Allowing towns to adopt high performance green building standards makes sense in our efforts to reduce our carbon emissions and mitigate our impact on climate change.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to provide input to this important proposal today.

Patrick M. Comins
Executive Director

Founded in 1898, the Connecticut Audubon Society is an independent organization that conserves Connecticut’s environment through science-based education and advocacy focused on the state’s bird populations and habitats. We own and manage 20 preserves covering almost 3,300 acres in all areas of the state, and we work with landowners to help them manage their land for the benefit of birds and other wildlife.