



The Jonah Center for Earth and Art

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March 7, 2021

Testimony in Support of Governor's Bill 6441 An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation

To Members of the Environment Committee

I am writing in support of Governor's Bill #6441 because climate change is a threat to local communities and to the global community that calls for urgent action and adaptation. Already, we are seeing threats to urban forests, increased storm intensity, and loss of biodiversity. DEEP projects sea level to rise 20 inches by 2050. The storm surges that will result will be devastating.

I appreciate the provisions in the bill for local storm water management, and I am especially supportive of section 3 which allows municipalities to raise revenues through a local land conveyance fee to support many forms of climate action and adaptation.

The Jonah Center is very active in working to remove aquatic invasive species such as water chestnut and hydrilla from the Connecticut River and Mattabesset River. Section 3 could help our town raise funds to address the critical threats to our waterways posed by these plants.

Section 3 would also allow for a real estate conveyance fee to support acquisition of open space and to protect and encourage local agriculture – both being needed forms of mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Hall".

John C. Hall, Executive Director

Our mission: to foster sustainable relationships among people, other creatures, energy resources, and the environment and to promote interdisciplinary community partnerships in scientific, artistic, and other cultural endeavors.