

Dear Senator Cohen, Representative Gresko, and members of the Environment Committee,

I am a teacher and father of two children in Westbrook CT. As someone who hopes to be a lifelong Connecticut resident and see my children decide to settle in our wonderful communities I look towards the future with personal hopes for my family and civic hopes for my state. I'm writing to ask that you support HB 6441 which provides municipalities with tools to fund climate adaptation and resilience projects, following the recommendations of the Governor's Council on Climate Change. I especially support Section 3 of the bill which provides municipalities with an option to establish a buyer's conveyance fee to fund land stewardship, climate resilience, and other environmental projects in our community. In my town of Westbrook, we could use these funds to support local projects including the Menunketesuck - Cockaponset Regional (MCR) Greenway, the Menunketesuck Greenway, and creating and implementing our climate change resiliency plan. Adoption of the program by towns is optional, and it costs the state nothing. Please support HB 6441 and give our community the opportunity to decide whether to establish this funding program.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

Sincerely,

Zachary Hayden