

Good morning,

I am writing in support of HB 6441, AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION.

This important bill, which would generate local funding to protect open space, maintain recreational lands, support climate resiliency, and make other important local investments in our quality of life, is especially critical to communities trying to support increased use of outdoor recreational areas, hiking trails, and open space.

The pandemic has highlighted the need to promote and maintain open space and availability of outdoor recreational space. Residents of all ages, craving exercise and opportunities to enjoy some form of socialization have hiked, biked, walked, and scampered through open spaces. We need to afford communities the ability to establish a buyer's conveyance fee on the sale of real property for the purpose of purchasing, preserving, and otherwise serving as stewards of open space in their municipalities. Passing HB 6441, An Act Concerning Climate Change, will make the vision a reality for many CT towns.

Thank you,

Barbara Mechler

Southbury