

Dear Senator Cohen, Representative Borer, and members of the Environmental Committee,

I am writing to support HB 6441, an Act Concerning Climate change Adaption

Environmental impacts due to accelerating Climate Change make urgent the need for Flood Control, Coastal Resilience and infrastructure upgrades. As a residents of Branford, my wife and I are very concerned about the damage to our coastline, buildings, bridges and streets as ocean level rise and water runoff from increasingly frequent storms disrupt and endanger residents' lives and the viability of our town.

The property where we have lived for over 25 years includes several acres of what was meadow that now has become salt marsh. As organic growers, we are experiencing observable water table rise as a steady decrease in our available crop land.

For decades, while documented increases in global warming and climate change have been concerns, little planning and preparation for their impacts has been enacted, to say nothing of establishing a funding stream to strengthen environmental resilience.

HB 6441 provides both the rationale and opportunity for proactively addressing present and future climate-driven challenges. In particular, Section 3, proposing a home buyers' conveyance fee, offers the opportunity for Connecticut towns to create a source of funding to add to local taxpayer support for corrective and protective measures against the destructive forces of our changing global environment.

Please support HB 6441 to give our town the chance to incorporate this funding proposal into our fledgling Coastal and Environmental Resilience program.

Sincerely,

Anthony B. Wight
21 Helen Rd.
Branford, CT 06405

March 7, 2021