

CT State General Assembly

Committee on the Environment

March 7, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to provide testimony in support of the addition of Proposed Bill H.B. 5817, AN ACT ESTABLISHING GREEN JUSTICE ZONES to Raised Bill H.B. 6551 AN ACT CONCERNING ENVIRONMENTAL AIR QUALITY.

As a Connecticut resident, I am deeply concerned about the effects of the climate crisis upon all of us, and in particular the issue of environmental justice, which I firmly believe requires the State of CT to take all measures necessary to redress the unfair and disproportionate adverse effects of industrial pollutions upon low-income communities, and in particular people of color throughout our state.

I am therefore calling on the CT State General Assembly to amend Raised Bill No. 6551 to include H.B. 5817 AN ACT ESTABLISHING GREEN JUSTICE ZONES, in order provide state funding for remediation projects in Green Justice Zones, including removing polluting sources, installation of energy-efficient heating systems, renovations to existing homes, and full remediation and clean-up of health and safety issues in affected communities in order to restore safe and healthy environments for all CT residents.

In addition, I am strongly in support and advocate for the involvement of the residents of these communities to be included in decision-making with regards to these projects, as well as for statewide investment in green infrastructure improvements and remediation that prioritize the most vulnerable communities for investment, jobs, and jobs training all with the goal of creating a more just, sustainable and equitable CT for all its citizens.

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to creating a more sustainable, just, and equitable CT for all of its citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

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