



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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March 3, 2025

Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Parker, Vice Chairs Sen. Hochadel and Rep. Bumgardner, Ranking Members Sen. Harding and Rep. Callahan, Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) is a nine-member board that works independently of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to assess the condition of Connecticut's environment and report its findings annually to the Governor; recommend actions to improve state environmental programs; advise other state agencies on the environmental impacts of proposed projects; and investigate citizens' complaints and allegations of violations of environmental laws.

Proposed Senate Bill No. 732 - An Act Requiring The State Water Plan To Be Amended To Address Climate Change

•The Council **SUPPORTS** the provisions of the proposed bill that would require the Water Planning Council to recommend steps to increase the climate resiliency of existing water resources and infrastructure to climate change in the state water plan.

Proposed House Bill No. 6248 - An Act Establishing a Moratorium on Fishing for Striped Bass in the Lower Housatonic River

The Council **SUPPORTS** the provisions of the proposed bill that would establish a moratorium on the fishing of striped bass from the lower Housatonic River to allow the population of such fish to reach a sustainable population. The Council suggests that the proposed legislation also identify the timeframe for the moratorium or the mechanism for reopening the lower Housatonic River to fishing for striped bass when the population of such fish reaches a sustainable population.

Thank you for consideration of the Council's comments.

Sincerely,

Keith R Ainsworth

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chairman