

CONNECTICUT
Land Conservation Council

Testimony on House Bill No. 6748, Section 2
Transportation Committee
Submitted by Amy Blaymore Paterson, Executive Director
February 27, 2023

Co-Chairs Cohen and Lemar, Vice-Chairs Lopes and Berger-Girvalo, Ranking Members Hwang and Kennedy, and members of the Transportation Committee:

The Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) is the state's umbrella organization for the land conservation community, including its ~130 land trusts. We advocate for land conservation, stewardship and funding, and work to ensure the long-term strength and viability of the land conservation community in Connecticut.

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony on behalf of CLCC in support of **Section 2 of H.B. No. 6748, An Act Concerning Certificates of Approval for Motor Vehicle Dealerships and Repair Shops, Trespass on Watershed Land, The "Move Over" Law, and Minor Revisions to Motor Vehicle Statutes.**

As a coalition organization, CLCC works with Connecticut's robust land trust community as well as DEEP, municipalities, and other entities committed to advancing land conservation at every level. Water companies are strong and important land conservation partners, working with land trusts and their communities to protect critical watershed lands that are essential to drinking water quality and supply, wildlife habitat, and opportunities for passive recreation.

CLCC supports Section 2 of HB 6748 which would expand state prohibitions and penalties regarding simple trespass to watershed lands – strengthening the ability of water companies to protect these critical natural resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our comments, and for all you do. I would be happy to answer any question you may have.

