

CONNECTICUT
Land Conservation Council

Testimony on Raised House Bill No. 5055
Judiciary Committee
Submitted by Amy Blaymore Paterson, Executive Director
Connecticut Land Conservation Council
February 21, 2020

Co-Chairs Winfield and Stafstrom, Ranking Members Kissel and Rebimbas, Vice-Chairs Bergstein and Blumenthal, and members of the Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council concerning **Raised H.B. 5055, An Act Concerning a Property Owner's Liability for the Expenses of Removing a Fallen Tree or Limb.**

As the statewide umbrella organization for the land conservation community, including its ~137 land trusts, the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) advocates for land conservation, stewardship and funding, and works to ensure the long-term strength and viability of land conservation in Connecticut.

While not taking a position on the balance of the bill, CLCC would like to be on record as supporting Section 1 (e) which exempts land owned in fee or by conservation easement by land trusts and other 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations, water companies, municipalities, as well as by private landowners enrolled in the Public Act 490 program – all key partners in the state's land conservation efforts.

We thank the committee for your consideration and for this opportunity to submit comments. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

