



TESTIMONY **IN SUPPORT OF HB 5017**
AAC PARTICIPATION IN THE TIRE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM BY TIRE
RETAILERS.
January 28, 2025

To: Co-Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Parker, and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Connor Yakaitis, Deputy Director, CT League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **HB 5017** that will expand participation in the Tire Stewardship Program to include retailers.

We were proud when Connecticut became the first state to establish an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) law for managing waste tires in 2023 (HB 6486). This was an important step in mitigating the many adverse environmental impacts of waste tires including polluting our air, water, and soil systems; causing insect infestations; and remaining undecayed for hundreds of years.

However, the legislation left a critical loophole that allows retailers to avoid participating in the EPR program and continue to charge tire consumers for disposal. **HB 5017 will simply close this loophole and mandate that tire retailers join the EPR stewardship program.**

Passage of HB 5017 will not only greatly benefit Connecticut's environment, but will also benefit consumers who need to responsibly dispose of waste tires. **We strongly urge you to pass HB 5017.**

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