



TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF **HJ 1**
RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF THE
LONG ISLAND SOUND BLUE PLAN

February 18, 2020

To: Honored Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Demicco and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Lori Brown, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CTLCV), thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **IN SUPPORT of HJ 1** to adopt the Long Island Sound Blue Plan.

Long Island Sound is the Northeast's largest estuary and includes some of the Earth's most productive natural habitats. **The Sound is important to more than 20 million people who live within 50 miles and generates billions annually for local economies through tourism, fishing and other uses.**

Without the Long Island Sound Blue Plan, the state has no authority to adequately plan for multiple future uses of the Sound, whether they be recreational, industrial, or developmental. The Blue Plan incorporates **the contributions of nearly 2,000 individuals** from conservation, business, recreation, government, Native American tribes and the public. It is imperative that the committee pass the Long Island Sound Blue Plan in order to proactively protect Long Island Sound while preserving traditional uses, maritime beauty, and environmental values.

We at CTLCV urge the committee to **SUPPORT HJ 1**, and adopt the Long Island Blue Plan. Thank you for your consideration as you deliberate on this bill.

Sincerely,

Lori Brown
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