

Government Oversight Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5579 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT AMENDING A CONVEYANCE OF PARCELS OF STATE LAND TO THE

Title: TOWN OF CHESHIRE.

Vote Date: 4/6/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 4/1/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Linehan

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill amends a prior law authorizing the transfer of three state owned parcels in Cheshire (totaling about 48 acres) to the town by expanding the allowable uses for their eventual sale to include economic development, a medical facility, housing, or open space preservation, and extending the deadline for such a sale to July 1, 2031. The parcels must be sold at fair market value, with proceeds going to the state's Special Transportation Fund, and will revert to the state if not sold for an approved purpose by the deadline.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Garrett T. Eucalitto, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Transportation](#): Offered general comments, stating the bill's amendments to expand permitted uses and extend the reversion timeline are acceptable, and noting the appraisal language already allows for updates as needed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Alicea Charamut, Executive Director, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut: Offered general comments, noting concerns about inaccurate environmental information and emphasizing the parcel's location in an aquifer protection area with wetlands and headwater streams. She urged careful consideration of future land use and supported maintaining the property as open space or low impact use to protect water resources.

Anonymous 8 and 10: Left general comments.

**Reported by: Clerk- Greg Wolff
Assistant clerk- Mike Hamann**

Date: 4/13/26