TESTIMONY OF
THE CONNECTICUT PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Monday, February 10, 2019

Committee Bill 5315 – An Act Requiring Kayak, Canoe and Paddleboard Operators to Wear Life Vests

My name is Judy Goldberg, Vice President of Government Relations for the Connecticut Parent Teacher Association. The Connecticut Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and its over 38,000 members is submitting this written testimony in support of Committee Bill 5315.

PTA supports this initiative to require the use of a life vest while participating in kayaking, canoeing, and paddleboarding in tidal waters.

CT PTA is concerned with the safety of children in our schools and community. Children should be taught proper safety at a young age and feel assured that the adult who is responsible for their care, during these activities, is safe. Chance of survival for someone wearing a life jacket is increased. Life Jackets come in numerous sizes and styles to fit a variety of needs and preferences. Adults have a responsibility to be a positive water safety role model.

About Connecticut PTA

Connecticut PTA comprises over 38,000 members consisting of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools and well-being of children. PTA is a registered 501(c) (3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education, children’s health and child welfare. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health and welfare of children and youth.