

ACCABONAC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

956 Springs Fireplace Road, East Hampton, NY 11937

May 2007

Memorandum in Support:

New York State Senate and Assembly
A7438/S4364

Purpose of Legislation: The bills provide for the management of outdoor night lighting to conserve energy and to protect the nighttime environment from light pollution.

The Steering Committee of the Accabonac Protection Committee, East Hampton, has unanimously passed a resolution to endorse the above proposed New York State legislation.

The APC, numbering over 900 members, represents the environmental concerns of the community surrounding Accabonac Creek (part of the Peconic Estuary) in East Hampton Town, NY.

The APC supports this legislation because light pollution (defined as: unshielded, misdirect, and excessive outdoor lighting) affects the health and well being of plants and animals, including humans, by:

1. Unnecessarily burning fossil fuels, creating air and water pollution,
2. Creating 'skyglow' which diminishes our ability to view the stars,
3. Committing 'light trespass', intruding on neighbors' privacy and nature,
4. Creating 'glare', a danger to pedestrians, drivers, and boaters, and
5. Altering the natural habitats and biological rhythms of plants and animals, birds, fish and insects.

We urge our legislators to pass as strong a light pollution bill as possible, as soon as possible, and to provide that the law is properly adhered to by individuals, businesses, and municipalities.

APC Steering Committee: Arlene Coulter, Cile Downs, Betty Franey, Susan Harder, Jorie Latham, Margot Hardy, Ralph Carpentier.