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State senator makes plea to president

NORTH PROVIDENCE — State Sen. John Celona has written to President Bush, urging that he "not go ahead with plans to limit the Superfund pollution clean-up program."

Senator Celona said, "I can tell you on a first-hand basis the Superfund Act works for the benefit of the people and the benefit of the environment.

"In North Providence, part of a district that I represent, the Woonasquatucket River was discovered to be polluted with dioxins and the area around it with volatile organic chemicals," Celona wrote.

"When I first called the Environmental Protection

Agency to take remedial action in August, 1998, I fully realized that the situation merited a great deal of work to put the river and the surrounding areas back into their clean state," Celona continued.

Since that time, the Woonasquatucket River has been declared a Superfund site and the process has begun and is in action.

"Without the Superfund Act in place as it is, the clean-up of the Woonasquatucket river and its surrounding areas would not be able to be cleaned up and the environment and the people would suffer," Celona further wrote.

Photo Times 7/19