



TESTIMONY OF THE  
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES  
TO THE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 13, 2007

CCM opposes Proposed House Bill 7096 - "*An Act Concerning Pesticide Applications at Schools and the Use of Environmentally Sensitive Cleaning and Maintenance Products in Schools*"

This bill *would inhibit the ability of municipalities to adequately care for and maintain costly recreation fields and playgrounds* by extending the ban on the use of pesticides on all private or public school properties.

The Department of Environmental Protection already strictly regulates pesticides, and the application of them. There are clear guidelines that municipalities and other applicators have to follow to ensure the least environmental and health impact on individuals – such as notice requirements and methods for application.

Banning the use of these products could create a liability issue for municipalities if fields and playgrounds are not properly treated and begin to deteriorate from the invasive plants.

Please be careful about imposing any requirements to utilize organic products instead. Such products are not regulated by any agency and therefore cannot be fully trusted to be non-toxic.

Municipal public works entities carefully plan for and execute maintenance plans for their recreation facilities in ways that promote the care of the property and limits toxic exposure to individuals and the environment. There is no need to place any further restrictions on them.

CCM asks the committee to take no action on this bill.

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For more information please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver  
or Jim Finley at (203) 498-3000.