



Windham Property Owner's Association

Senator Handley, Representative Sayers and members of the Committee:

My name is Joyce Boncal and I represent the Windham Property Owner's Association.

Although we applaud any effort to eradicate childhood lead poisoning, we feel this bill does not look close enough at a major source of lead- airborne lead which flies in the air on dust particles which then land on roads, playgrounds, sidewalks, lawns, railings, cars and all outside surfaces. The truth is lead is everywhere not just in paint in houses. The main source of lead may well be on the outside environment of a house not the inside. Lead in the air is due to decades of using lead-based gasoline. It will take some years for it to disappear from our environment, but until it does, we should take precautionary measures to live with it in our environment and not over-react to its presence. This bill is an over-reaction.

In a study of 32,000 children living in three cities between 1994 and 2003 and published in *Environmental Health Perspectives*, it was found that weather conditions contributed significantly to increased lead levels in children. The ideal weather conditions to produce elevated lead levels were high temperatures, dry soils, and elevated dust particle levels in the air. It was found that using a computer model, scientists could predict with a high accuracy, the monthly blood-lead levels among urban children.

The statistics in Connecticut show lead levels in children have been dropping. This may well be to the air-borne lead levels dropping. It's these air-borne lead levels that we should be monitoring in addition to teaching children and parents proper cleaning and health measures to keep blood lead levels low.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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