

## Pesticide Application at Day Care Facilities

Introduction: I am a physician pathologist trained in the cause and effects of human disease. I am familiar with the toxic effects of pesticides. Many pesticides are among the most toxic chemicals used where people live, work, and play. It is a fact that young children are the most vulnerable to the toxic effects of these chemicals. The effects of exposure are linked to cancer, birth defects, reproductive effects, liver or kidney damage, neurotoxicity, and hormonal system disruption.

**This statute is MUCH MORE PROTECTIVE of young children at day care facilities than the present pesticide statutes**

- It provides for a trained licensed applicator to apply pesticides
- The authority to use a pesticide in an emergency is clarified
- It provides for prior notification of parents or guardians of a pesticide application by any means where none existed before
- It provides for annual written statement to parents of the facility's pesticide policy and applications at the facility in the previous 12 months
- It provides that records of what pesticide was applied (when, where, and why) be kept in the facility for 5 years
- It extends this legislation to all day care centers

**Because of the current economic situation, and despite the fact that this legislation protects the youngest and most vulnerable children from toxic pesticides, this bill will not pass if you do not add the following provision:**

### **The provisions of this section shall be enforced within existing resources**

**The enforcement of this legislation is not onerous. The DPH inspects day care facilities on a two-year cycle. They only have to look at the records of the facility to see that they are compliant with this legislation. If the facility is not compliant, DPH tells them what they have to do and the facility replies in writing how they have complied with the requirements of the legislation.**

Respectfully,



**Jerome A. Silbert, M.D.**

Executive Director

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