

From: soulprints@netzero.net  
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2009 12:43 PM  
To: Frills, John  
Cc: soulprints@netzero.com  
Subject: PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY

Connecticut General Assembly Education Committee  
Written Testimony~ HB6496 An Act Concerning Green Cleaning in Schools  
Public Hearing-Monday, February 23, 2009

Joyce Acebo-Raguskus, Chair Diesel Cleanup, Milford/ECC  
Environmental Concerns Coalition  
Coalition For A Safe & Healthy Connecticut

Good Day. I ask that you support HB6496, An Act Concerning Green Cleaning in Schools. Every school that neglects confronting the reality of the continued use of toxic chemicals for cleaning are contributing to illness and sick days in children, teachers and custodians, those that spend a significant part of their life in indoor polluted spaces. THIS SIMPLY IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. US EPA speaks loud ranking "indoor pollution" among the top five environmental risks to public health. Because of children's body size they are much more vulnerable to exposures to toxic cleaning chemicals. ON THE BASIS THAT IT KILLS HARMFUL BACTERIA PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN, RATHER, IT IS contributing to asthma, increased metabolic rates, eye, nose, throat and lung irritations, difficulty breathing, induce coughing and can often bring on vomiting, cramping or diarrhea. Volatile organic compounds, VOC's that evaporate into the air for inhabitants to breathe are especially symptomatic of the side effects of VOC laden fumes that can remain in the air for hours, days and weeks effecting a syndrome of ill effects. Short term symptoms may include rashes, headaches and dizziness. Research demonstrates long-term problems resulting from toxic cleaning chemical exposures include the onset of cancer, reproductive disorders and major organ damage; i.e. liver, kidney and eyes.

I ask do you really want to send your child off to an environment such as this and work in such a toxic space...

We must take corrective action and turn to independent, THIRD PARTY CERTIFIED CLEANING PRODUCTS PERIOD. GREEN SEAL IS AN INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY NEED TO USE 21ST CENTURY EQUIPMENT/HEPA filtering, IMPLEMENT SIMPLE AND SAFE STATE OF THE ART GREEN CLEANING PROCEDURES. ALL AVAILABLE Schools are a toxic breeding house when alternative cleaning materials are not used.

Toxic chemicals become more heavily concentrated in a heavily populated school building, one of the most densely occupied indoor space WHICH CONTAINS OUR VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE, STRUGGLING TO GROW AND BE HEALTHY CITIZENS.

PLEASE CONFRONT IN A VALUING WAY THE NEED FOR SUPPORTING HB6496 GREEN CLEANING IN OUR SCHOOLS.

THANK YOU AND THOSE BREATHING IN CLEAN AIR SCHOOLS WILL THANK YOU.

Joyce Acebo-Raguskus