



**SENATOR BOB DUFF**  
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Appropriations  
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Results-Based Accountability  
Conservation & Development

Testimony by Senator Bob Duff  
PROPOSED BILL 919, AN ACT PHASING OUT THE USE OF  
POLYBROMINATED DIPHENYL ETHERS  
March 2, 2009

To: The Hon. Ed Meyer, Co-Chairman, The Hon. Richard Roy, Co-Chairman,  
The Hon. Andrew Maynard, Vice Chairman, The Hon. Bryan Hurlburt, Vice Chairman,  
The Hon. John McKinney, Ranking Member, The Hon. Clark Chapin, Ranking Member  
and members of the Environment Committee

I would like to thank the members of the Environment Committee for hearing  
PROPOSED BILL 919, AN ACT PHASING OUT THE USE OF POLYBROMINATED  
DIPHENYL ETHERS. This bill would ban the manufacture, sale or distribution of  
certain products which contain polybrominated diphenyl ethers.

Protecting the health of Connecticut's citizens is what has recently been referred to as a  
"core mission" of state government. It is imperative that manufacturers of durable goods  
use products and processes that are least harmful to the health and safety of the  
purchasers of these goods. It is particularly unacceptable to allow the sale of these goods  
when there are alternatives which are proven to be safer and meet all the necessary safety  
standards of the governing agencies. In the case of polybrominated diphenyl ethers, there  
are alternative products that meet the applicable standards and do not compromise the  
health and safety of consumers. I strongly support the passage of this bill on behalf of the  
citizens of our state.

I respectfully urge the committee to give this legislation every consideration. Thank you  
for this opportunity and please feel free to contact my office at 240-0414 if you have any  
questions.