

Written Testimony of Ann Berman, Environmental Concerns
Coalition, ECC Before the Connecticut General Assembly
Environment Committee, March 1, 2010, Testimony in **Support of
the Child Safe Products Act: HB 5130 and an Act Establishing a
Chemical Innovations Institute: HB 5126.**

Thank you for this opportunity to support these bills. In my day we fortunately did not have all these plastic toys and plastic nursing bottles to worry about. We did have fewer toys to chew and play with, but they must have been reasonably non-toxic, as our generation did not have these high numbers of asthma, learning disabilities and cancers.

It has been said that the present generation of children will not enjoy the same longevity as my generation because of all the toxic chemicals they have been exposed to from birth, including in utero to present day. Many newborns who have been tested, show high body burden counts, which are inherited from their mothers and then only to be exposed to our modern anti-bacterial soaps, plastics, bottles, toys, medical supplies, tubes, cleaning supplies, furniture, rugs and you name it. What a welcome we are giving our newborns into this twenty-first century with the highest and most sophisticated medical practices and medicines since man inhabited the earth.

It is time that we are accountable for these toxic substances. It is time to have a warehouse of all these toxic chemicals that are in too many products, too many to list, that can be accessed by doctors, parents, retailers, whom ever needs to know. It is time to acknowledge that most people believe that if it is on the market it has been approved by the government and that it is safe. The new book **Slow Death by Rubber Duck, *The Secret Danger of Everyday Things***, tells much of the story and the title tells it all. I recently exhibited with NOFA, the ECC's Freedom Lawn initiative on organic land care, at the Hartford Flower Show, and experienced especially these youngsters, young people, and yes landscapers who were seeking out my bumper sticker that said, "Pesticides Kill: Are you risking a child, pet... For "THE PERFECT LAWN"? As they were picking it up, they said, "This tells it all." The young people are getting it and they will be on our tails if these bills are not passed.

"Please It's Time" It is time to recognize this is a loud wakeup call to all those chemical companies, pharmaceuticals and manufacturers that produce products that they know contain harmful substances that can leach out into the environment into human body and animals, that they are to be held accountable and responsible for any ill effects. It is time to have this special place that of a Chemical Innovations Institute to keep us informed.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Submitted by,

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