



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Public Hearing, March 12, 2010
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Amey Marrella
Department of Environment Protection

Raised House Bill No. 5418 - An Act Concerning Integrated Pest Management Plans for Municipal Facilities

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised Bill House 5418, An Act Concerning Integrated Pest Management Plans for Municipal Facilities. This bill would extend the requirements to use integrated pest management (IPM) to municipal facilities.

The Department supports the use of integrated pest management. Integrated pest management is a strategy to control pests that does not rely exclusively on any single technique, but requires a comprehensive evaluation of all of the factors regarding the situation. Currently, state departments and agencies are required to use IPM at facilities under their control. The Department has been successfully promoting and regulating this concept, and has worked with the Department of Administrative services to incorporate IPM into the bid specifications and contracts for pest control at these facilities. IPM has been shown time and again to reduce pesticide use while maintaining excellent pest control. Municipalities can, and some do, use the state pest control contract to hire pest control services using IPM. While the Department sees great benefits in using IPM, limited Department resources will preclude a major initiative of outreach or enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Department's views on this bill. If you should require any additional information, please contact the Department's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance, at 424-3401, or Robert.LaFrance@CT.gov.