



198 Park Road, 2nd Floor
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 231-8842
www.EnvironmentConnecticut.org

Written Testimony of Christopher Phelps, Environment Connecticut Program Director
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee
Friday, March 12, 2010

Opposing HB 5418, An Act Concerning Integrated Pest Management Plans For
Municipal Facilities

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, and members of the Committee:

Environment Connecticut respectfully submits this testimony opposing HB 5418. Our organization is a statewide, member-supported environmental non-profit.

HB 5418 appears to be in conflict with the provisions of Section 10-231b of the general statutes. That statute is the existing pesticide ban applying to public and private schools with students in grade 8 or lower. Environment Connecticut strongly supported the enactment of that law as a way to reduce children's exposure to toxic lawn care pesticides. HB 5418 appears to conflict with that existing statute by mandating that *all* municipal facilities use Integrated Pest Management. This provision could be interpreted as superseding the school pesticide ban. (IPM allows use of pesticides.)

We respectfully request that the committee amend HB 5418 to explicitly clarify that it in no way modifies the existing ban on application of lawn care pesticides at public and private schools.

Sincerely,

Christopher Phelps
Program Director
Environment Connecticut