

To: the General Assembly
Committee on Environment
RE: Raised Bill #126

William Anderson

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding the current proposal to ban wood-fired boilers. Wood-fired boilers when installed and used properly emit less smoke and odors than wood stoves, fireplaces, campfires, etc. and they use less wood. The answer is not to ban them but to prevent those that use them improperly from operating them. Why not propose that operators that receive multiple complaints that don't make alterations to their system to correct any emission problems be issued a cease and desist order and must relinquish the use of their system. To create a blanket law that affects those citizens that install and operate their systems responsibly does not make sense. Most have also complied with all current regulations and installation instructions. To ban systems that meet current regulations is an abuse of government. Those that have properly installed wood-fired boilers have made a substantial investment in the units to reduce their long term heating costs and dependence on fossil fuels. At the time we were investigating the heating systems certain systems were being given Tax Credits for being "Green" and "clean" systems. Now that people have made the choice to heat with wood and invest substantial dollars in the system you are going to go from giving Tax Credits to banning them??? This is another example of government intrusion and over regulation.

I strongly urge you to reconsider your position on wood-fired boilers, get the facts, view some systems in operation and you will see there is nothing wrong with these units. They are environmentally friendly, efficient and a viable alternative to fossil fuels.

Sincerely,

William Anderson