

February 9, 2011

Environment Committee
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Environment Committee Members:

I am a Connecticut resident who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace. It was a major investment for me.

When I purchased this unit, I was given guidelines supported by the State of Connecticut. I meet all the State of Connecticut guidelines. I live on a property that is large enough and away from other homes that it does not affect anyone. Has the Committee considered a minimum acreage requirement?

I am extremely concerned that if this ban goes into effect, that I will lose my investment of over \$10,000. I will also lose our potential savings over the upcoming years if I am unable to use this unit. In this economy, it is very disturbing to me that this might happen. Does the Committee have any suggestions on what I will do with this unit, how I will pay to dispose of it and convert it and how I am going to recoup my investment?

Once these units are banned, what will happen to wood stoves, fireplaces, outdoor wood burning pits – is the Committee going to ban them too because they create smoke just like the outdoor wood-burning furnaces?

This bill has stated that these units will be banned except for the properties that are engaged in farming. If these units are so dangerous to other individuals, what exempts farms? In our rural area, there are farms very close to other residential houses – how is this logical and fair?

I respectfully request that you OPPOSE BILL NO. 830, which will take away my right to use our outdoor wood-burning furnace that I lawfully purchased, lawfully installed and lawfully use and consider imposing penalties to those individuals who are violating the State of Connecticut guidelines or make a minimum acreage requirement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alfred Binder
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