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Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 830

***AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF CERTAIN
OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES***

This letter is to state my opposition to Bill No. 830 prohibiting the use of outdoor wood furnaces. I have owned and operated an outdoor wood furnace since 2002. In fact it is my only source of heat for my home. I have spent my money to purchase and install this furnace with the intent of using it the rest of my life. I have also made changes to my home for the purpose of heating permanently with this furnace. It works great. My home was built in 1738 and has been in the family since 1879 so things I do here are for the long term. I do not have the money to change to another heating system. In fact if by some miracle the money appeared where would the money come from to buy oil or gas to fuel a different heating system? I get my wood for free except for my time invested. This lets me pay all my bills, including the mortgage, child support and day to day living expenses which I'm sure you all can relate to. I harvest all my wood locally - you could say Connecticut Grown if you like. I keep a two year supply on hand so all my wood is well seasoned. I have never had a complaint from the neighbors, in fact some people have stopped by and asked why did I buy that furnace and then not run it. My answer is its running right now; they reply I don't believe it - how come it's not smoking? I reply you have been fed incorrect information. I go on to explain it smokes twice a day when new wood is loaded into the firebox. Putting fine split wood in first then larger split wood topped off with non split wood works to keep a nice steady clean burning fire. Please oppose Bill No. 830 so I can stay here at my family home and use a renewable resource to keep myself warm during the winter heating season. Thank you.