

February 23, 2012

Mike Dukette  
Harrells, LLC.  
Double Green LLC  
102 Conklin Road  
Stafford Springs, CT 06076

**SUPPORT For Raised Bill 5155  
An Act Modifying The Ban On Pesticide Applications On School Grounds**

To: The Honorable Steve Cassano, Co-Chair, The Honorable Linda M. Gentile Co-Chair, The Honorable Eric D. Coleman, Vice Chair and The Honorable Auden Grogins, Vice Chair, Leonard A. Fasano, William Aman, Vincent J. Candelora, Christopher Davis, Mae M. Flexer, Mary G. Fritz, Noreen S. Kokoruda, Roland J. Lemar, Elaine C. O' Brien, Jason Perillo, Lonnie Reed, Tom Reynolds, Matthew Ritter, Jason Rojas, Kim Rose, Bill Simanski, Richard A. Smith

My professional background is both as a supplier to the turf industry as a sales representative for Harrell's, LLC and as a certified professional applicator for my own business Double Green LLC. I have been selling fertilizer, seed, and chemical control products for the last 25 years. I am a licensed pesticide dealer in Connecticut and pride myself on knowing as much as currently possible about all aspects of turf management to help athletic field managers make proper decisions on ball field maintenance. I started my application business Double Green LLC. six years ago to properly apply chemical products for municipalities as needed always following the states IPM plan. I hold a supervisory license in turf and ornamentals and my business is registered as a pesticide application business.

Integrated Pest Management is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices. IPM programs use current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment. This information, in combination with available pest control methods, is used to manage pest damage with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

IPM has provided for safe, reliable and judicious use of pest control applications in lawn care, turf management, farming and inside buildings. When I apply products to control pests such as grubs and weeds, my tools (sprayer) allow the product to be applied with pin point accuracy; no drift, no over lapping spray and no overapplication.

**IPM allows for well-maintained athletic fields and playgrounds.**

- Preventing injuries to student athletes.
- Reduced liability claims against towns and schools due to injuries.
- Protects the financial investments towns have made in athletic fields and school grounds.
- Greatly reduces the amount of pest control utilized for maximum effectiveness.
- Utilizes IPM trained, regulated and licensed professionals for pest control applications.
- EPA calls for IPM to be in every school by 2015.

Please support Raised Bill 5155 and assist in making our school grounds and playing fields safe and pest free.

Sincerely,

Mike Dukette