

Walter, Judith

From: Blancato, Allison
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:00 PM
To: Walter, Judith
Subject: FW: Testimony on Bill 5155 AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

From: Stacy Prince [mailto:stacy@prince.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2012 1:18 PM
To: Blancato, Allison
Subject: Testimony on Bill 5155 AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Dear Members of the Planning and Development Committee,

My daughter had cancer when she was three. It is an experience no child -- and no parent -- should have to go through.

Needless to say, I got educated real fast on risk factors.

One of the first things I learned was the connection between pesticide exposure and childhood cancers -- especially my daughter's cancer, leukemia. I also learned about links to other cancers, for which my daughter is at even greater risk after her 2-1/2 years of chemotherapy. **As a result, I spent lots of time and energy trying to keep her off sprayed lawns and playing fields in preschool, elementary school, and middle school, and waited eagerly for the school pesticide ban to take full effect.**

I am *appalled* that the State of Connecticut is revisiting the important protections for our children that were included in the original law. If 5155 passes, it will be a major setback for the protection of young children.

Please, please, please don't allow pesticide companies to make my child and others "externalized costs" of their profits. It simply makes no sense for our children to be involuntarily and unnecessarily exposed to toxic chemicals -- especially when there are safe, effective, affordable alternatives.

Thank you for putting health before profits.

Sincerely,
Stacy Prince
5 Little Lane
Westport, CT 06880