

Blancato, Allison

From: Susan Macary [sjmacary@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Blancato, Allison
Cc: zRepresentative Christie Carpino
Subject: Raised H.B. No. 5155 — "AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS"

February 21, 2012

Senator Cassano
Representative Gentile
Planning and Development Committee
Room 2100, Legislative Office Building
Hartford , CT 06106

Dear Senator Cassano, Representative Gentile, and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to submit my comments on Raised H.B. No. 5155 — "AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS" that is scheduled for public hearing tomorrow, 2/22/12 in the Planning and Development Committee.

I am the mother of two young children, a public health practitioner, and a homeowner adjacent to an elementary school soccer field wherein my children run and play. I strongly disapprove of this bill and hope the committee will vote AGAINST HB 5155.

The current Connecticut Statute banning pesticides from school grounds was well researched, well thought out and very strongly supported in our state. Moving back to IPM means allowing the chemical companies and some careless grounds keepers and custodians to use any chemicals they choose. With IPM there are few, if any, restrictions on how chemicals can be used. Also, an effective organic pesticide and pest management program can be destroyed by the careless application of chemicals. Chemicals kill both the pests and the beneficial organisms in the ecosystem. Our children, especially the youngest children, need to be protected from harmful chemicals. The endocrine and cell disrupters we use to kill weeds and other pests also act on our own systems causing increased risk for cancer, possibly ADHD, and other health problems.

Please, vote AGAINST HB 5155.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Susan Macary
Portland, CT

3/7/2012