

Blancato, Allison

From: susan killheffer [mailto:susan.killheffer@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:25 PM
To: Blancato, Allison
Subject: Concerning opposition to Bill 5155 AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

There seems to me to be no valid or even reasonable argument in favor of watering down the protections that were put in place to keep toxic lawn chemicals away from children at school. There is clearly no demonstrable *need* to use such chemicals; school grounds can be maintained beautifully and easily without them. A burgeoning and immensely successful organic land care and lawn care industry has grown up in this state - an industry so successful that Connecticut has become the center for educating, training and accrediting lawn professionals throughout the northeast and into the mid-Atlantic states. People travel to Connecticut from all over the region to attend week-long training in these skills so that they can take them back to answer the call for them in other states. Certainly such training is even more readily and easily available to Connecticut's own landscapers. It appears that the only people who will benefit from once again spreading toxins on our children's surroundings are the manufacturers of such materials.

Best to you,
Susan Killheffer
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