

Walter, Judith

From: Blancato, Allison
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 11:14 AM
To: Walter, Judith
Subject: FW: Bill 5111

From: pam sloane [mailto:pam.sloane@ct.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 9:40 PM
To: Blancato, Allison
Subject: Bill 5111

Concerning opposition to Bill 5155 AN ACT MODIFYING THE BAN ON PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Who benefits? This is the question I often raise when something is proposed that is apparently harmful, yet has a following. As a public school teacher for 30 years I am horrified that one would consider modifying - softening?, reducing? rendering impotent? the ban on pesticides on school grounds. "-cide" equals "kill". When we kill the pests we introduce harmful elements into the environment, elements that "kill". They are not restricted to killing the pests against whom they are directed. They contaminate anything in the environment - the beneficial insects, pollinating bees, birds that feed on these insects; the living organisms that nurture and create the soil components; the hands of those who touch the soil; the custodial staff that administers the pesticides. We need to stop killing what nature has provided. We need to respect all life. What are we doing to our children? What are we teaching them? How do we teach children to nurture the earth when we so blithely kill anything that bothers us a bit?

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