

**Raised Bill 6526, AN ACT CONCERNING TOXICS DISCLOSURE AND INNOVATION
FOR HEALTHY CHILDREN**

Dear Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Urban and honorable members of the Committee on Children,

My name is Laura Anderson, of Wethersfield, Connecticut. I am a mother of two children and a member of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut. I am also a certified School Psychologist in the State of Connecticut. I am writing in support of Raised Bill 6526, An Act Concerning Toxics Disclosure and Innovations for Healthy Children.

As a parent and a professional trained to work with children, I am deeply concerned with our outdated toxic chemical policies. As I understand it, seventy-thousand new industrial and consumer product chemicals have been released into our market place since the 1950's, many of which are used to make the products we buy and use everyday in our homes and workplaces. While this proliferation has been going on, business entities and manufacturers, in keeping with US toxic policies written thirty years ago, have had little or no requirement to provide researched based information on the safety of our long term use and exposure to these chemicals. Meanwhile, childhood cancers, breast cancers, asthma, infertility, birth defects and autism have risen significantly over the same period. Along with this increase in disease, the last thirty years of environmental science connects small amounts of chemical exposure at vulnerable times in development with long term effects, including later diagnosis of breast and testicular cancers, learning and developmental disabilities and other diseases. In short, looking at the whole picture tells me that our failed toxic policies in Connecticut and beyond are a recipe for disaster for our children's health which will only get worse if we continue to conduct business this way.

Identifying and addressing chemicals of concern to children is long overdue. The President's Cancer Panel and the American Academy of Pediatrics have warned that our children are not being protected from environmental contaminants. RB 6526 goes a long way toward helping Connecticut parents like me protect children by identifying chemicals of concern to children, and requiring manufacturers to disclose to our State whether their products are made with these chemicals. I wholeheartedly urge you to support Raised Bill 6526.