



Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice

P.O. Box 2022, Hartford, Connecticut 06145-2022 Phone (860) 548-1133 Fax (860) 548-9197
E-mail: richard.parmlee@environmental-justice.org www.environmental-justice.org

I thank the members of this Committee on Health and Safety Children for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Richard T. Parmlee, Sr., and I am with Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice. I am here to testify in favor of RB 6526 Toxics Disclosure and Innovation for Healthy Children.

I am here to speak out to protect the health of my children in addition to the other children in my community. However, science is finding more toxic chemicals that affect our health and well-being at lower and lower levels. What had been considered safe before is all too often and no longer considered safe at these lower levels. We see increases in cancer rates among children, higher proportions of autism, higher and higher asthma rates. Study after study links many of these toxic chemicals to everyday products confirming these health problems. Children are among the most vulnerable to effects of toxic chemicals that are found in everyday products.

We should not take chances with the health of our children. We need to act now to pass comprehensive legislation which protects the health and safety of our children in our communities. The Toxics Disclosure and Innovation for Healthy Children bill would create a process whereby toxic chemicals of this kind should be identified and phased out. This is a better approach than to reducing one chemical at a time.

In fact it would take generations to pass separate legislation for each of the thousands of toxic chemicals of high concern. We need a comprehensive approach to this problem now.

I urge you to pass "RB 6526" Toxics Disclosure and Innovation for Healthy Children