



**Testimony
Kathryn Dube
Connecticut Council of Small Towns
Before the
Environment Committee
February 25, 2013**

- **HB-6438 - AN ACT RESTRICTING THE USE OF METHOPRENE AND RESMETHRIN**

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) *opposes HB-6438, as currently drafted*. The bill bans the use of certain chemicals that are important in controlling mosquito populations.

Mosquito borne illnesses pose serious health concerns for residents in our communities as well as pets and livestock. Municipalities need to be able to control mosquitoes to prevent outbreaks of mosquito-borne human or animal diseases.

At the same time, we are concerned with the potential impact of such chemicals on the state's water resources and aquatic life. We would therefore support legislation to require the state Department of Energy and Environmental (DEEP), in consultation with the state Departments of Agriculture and Public Health, to determine whether there are risks associated with the use of such chemicals on the state's water resources and aquatic life and develop and implement a mosquito control plan that balances the need to protect the state's water resources and aquatic life with the need to protect residents from mosquito-borne illnesses.