



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Public Hearing – February 19, 2014
Environment Committee

Joint Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, Interim Commissioner Robert J. Klee, and Commissioner Jewel Mullen

Raised Senate Bill No. 66 – AAC OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES.

Thank you for the opportunity to present joint testimony regarding Raised Senate Bill No. 66 – AN ACT CONCERNING OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES. The Departments of Agriculture, Energy and Environmental Protection, and Public Health welcome the opportunity to offer the following testimony.

We support this proposal and offer the following testimony.

Proposed Senate Bill No. 66 removes a sunset provision in the current statute that would otherwise eliminate the setback, installation and use requirements for outdoor wood-burning furnaces (OWF) as of the date the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgates regulations covering OWFs. On February 3, 2014, the EPA [proposed new performance standards for OWFs](#). These proposed standards contain emission limits for new OWFs that reflect the best available emissions control technology and strengthen testing for new OWF certification. We expect that these standards should become effective later this year.

While this is an important step forward, adoption of the EPA performance standards will automatically eliminate the current setback, installation and use requirements contained within the Connecticut statute. Therefore, it is imperative that the State retain these requirements and include a requirement that the owner or operator of an OWF burn only clean wood that has not been chemically treated.

Therefore, we suggest the following additions to line 37, “wood that is clean and is not chemically treated.”

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact George Krivda, DoAg’s Legislative Program Manager, at 860-713-2573 or George.Krivda@ct.gov; Robert LaFrance, DEEP’s Director of Governmental Affairs, at 860.424.3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov; or Elizabeth Keyes, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Department of Public Health, 860-509-7246 or elizabeth.keyes@ct.gov.