

Roberta Silbert, MPH, HB 5035
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Re: HB 5035 AN ACT CONCERNING TOXIC FIRE RETARDANTS IN CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS

Honorable Members of the Committee On Children,

I am writing to you in support of HB 5035

I support HB 5035 as an important step in protecting our youngest and most vulnerable children of Connecticut from exposure to toxic chemicals that cause harm. While we all try to keep our children safe they are being involuntarily exposed to toxic chemical that cause harm every day. Flame retardants pose health risks to fetuses, infants, children and the human populations in general.

There is mounting toxicological evidence showing that many of these chemicals are carcinogenic, pose risks to normal growth and development of fetuses, infants and children. Surely this is a public health crisis, but we in the health care field also see this as a less public tragedy, as we know the suffering that illness and disease can cause for families and especially for their children.

I applaud your bill that will take action and impose penalties. One must ask what kind of society we live in if money for corporations that manufacture toxic chemicals is valued over the health of our children. We have a moral obligation to our children and future generations to make sure we did all we could to ensure a toxic free legacy.

Thank you for the very, very important work that you are undertaking for all of us,

Roberta Silbert, MPH