



**Farmington River Watershed Association, Inc.**

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March 5, 2014

Testimony from the Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA) regarding:

**SB 46, An Act Concerning Pesticides on School Grounds**

Sen. Dante Bartolomeo and Rep. Diana Urban, co-Chairs; and Members of the Committee on Children,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill. The Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA) is a non-profit citizen's group whose mission is to preserve, protect, and restore the Farmington River and its watershed. As a river protection organization, we are concerned over toxic runoff to our surface waters, including pesticide runoff. We actively promote pesticide-free lawns; our educational outreach program includes presentations and other information about the hazards of pesticide use in and around the home, and tips for controlling pests without commercial toxic chemicals.

Even if that were the only reason for concern, our organization would **support SB 46**.

But in addition, we recognize the hazards that these substances present to the children that play on lawns, high school athletic fields, town parks, or other recreational areas. We are familiar with the subtle, complex, and long-delayed effects these toxins can have. Since both children and their natural environments are harmed by unnecessary pesticide use, we are testifying in favor of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eileen Fielding".

Eileen Fielding  
Executive Director