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Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

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**Testimony
Submitted to the
Planning and Development Committee
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HB 5580 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PESTICIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL, THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PRIMARY SERVICE AREA TASK FORCE AND THE ELIMINATION OF A MUNICIPAL MANDATE

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education supports the provisions of **HB 5580, An Act Concerning The Pesticide Advisory Council, The Recommendations Of The Emergency Medical Services Primary Service Area Task Force And The Elimination Of A Municipal Mandate**, which require the Pesticide Advisory Council to review new pesticides for safety and effectiveness and report the results to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection. The bill also provides that the Commissioner update a report on best practices regarding the safe and effective use of synthetic and organic pesticides for use by municipalities. This legislation would provide the information that is critical to enable districts to protect the health and safety of students, and to maintain playable athletic fields. It is imperative that those responsible for the care of school grounds have the proper tools to maintain healthy playing surfaces for our students.

We appreciate your attention to this issue.