

**Testimony in Favor of HB-5330
Submitted on March 12, 2014**

My name is Christine O'Day and I am a resident of Wilton, CT. I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB-5330.

I am very concerned about children and pets in Connecticut being exposed to toxic lawn pesticides. While I'm pleased that Connecticut has led the way with legislation protecting others from harm by banning the use of these toxic pesticides at day care centers and school grounds with children through grade 8, it's shocking to me that these toxic chemicals are still used at parks, playgrounds, athletic fields and municipal greens in our state. There are multiple studies showing the harmful effects these chemicals have on human health and their link to asthma, autism, cancer, leukemia and other diseases. As children and pets are most susceptible to the harmful effects of these chemicals due to their developing immune systems, their small size and their proximity to the ground, they should not be exposed to these toxins where they are going for recreation. Kids and pets are playing on these fields every single day and unknowingly being exposed to these harmful chemicals. I equate this situation with smoking...when we finally discovered how bad smoking was for smokers AND the people around the smokers, we finally created legislation to ban smoking in public places all over the country. Shouldn't this be the same case for toxic lawn pesticides?

I hope you will vote in favor of HB-5330. Thank you.

Christine O'Day
9 Riding Club Road
Wilton, CT
(203) 644-7654
christine@christineoday.com