



To The Chairmen of the Public Health Committee:

**Sen. Terry Gerratana and Rep. Susan Johnson**

And to the Honorable Members of the Committee

**RE: HB 5330 AAC The Application Of Pesticides At Parks, Playgrounds,  
Athletic Fields And Municipal Greens**

Date: March 14 Public Hearing

*Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is the statewide, non-profit coalition of river organizations, individuals, and businesses formed to protect and enhance Connecticut's waters by promoting sound water policies, uniting and strengthening the state's many river groups, and educating the public about the importance of water stewardship.*

**Rivers Alliance writes in strong support of HB 5530.** I am attaching to these remarks the American Academy of Pediatrics 2012 Technical Report *Pesticide Exposure in Children*. The report is chilling. You will see in the Abstract that the doctors have found associations between pesticide use and children's cancers and neurodevelopmental disorders. Moreover, they state that additional data suggests an association between parental pesticide use and adverse birth outcomes. It concludes: "Children's exposure to pesticides should be limited as much as possible."

There are already pesticides in *all* the nation's rivers and streams (US Geological Survey, 2006). Pesticide use is a major contributor to the die-off of freshwater species, which lead in the mass extinction of species now underway in North America and around the world.

This science and even the labels on pesticide products make it clear that the substances are dangerous. The American Academy of Pediatrics makes it clear they are dangerous to children. Please pass this legislation.

Thank you for your care to protect children.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Miner".

Margaret Miner

Executive Director

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