

**Testimony of  
Environment and Human Health, Inc.**

by  
Nancy Alderman, President

**Bill No. S.B. 66**

**SB 66, AN ACT CONCERNING OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES**

Good Afternoon Senator Ed Meyer, Representative Linda Gentile, and Members of the Environment Committee:

**Environment and Human Health is in strong support of SB 66.**

This is an important Bill. It simply says that when the US EPA sets their new residential wood smoke standards, the Connecticut outdoor wood furnace (OWF) state regulations from 2005 will stay in place.

The EPA's newly proposed residential wood smoke air standards will make wood smoke emissions a bit better – but they will in-no-way eliminate the wood smoke emissions. Connecticut's setback regulations of 200 feet have been critically important to the public since they were promulgated in 2005.

The wood-smoke emissions from outdoor wood furnaces travel for about ½ a mile – and therefore the setback regulations of 200 feet have never been enough to be really health protective –but they are certainly better than not having setbacks at all.

Environment and Human Health's outdoor wood furnace study measured the levels of wood smoke inside homes that were as far away from an outdoor wood furnace as 850 feet– and these homes had 6 times the levels of wood smoke as the houses not near an outdoor wood furnace and 4 times above the levels of the EPA air standards.

A house 240 feet from OWF had 8 times the EPA wood smoke standards.

So, even though the wood smoke emissions will be a bit better when EPA finally passes its new wood smoke regulations – there will still be wood smoke from these wood-burning appliances. Therefore these setbacks need to stay in place if we are to protect the public's health.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Nancy Alderman, President  
Environment and Human Health Inc.  
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