



Connecticut Department of
**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Public Hearing – February 19, 2014
Environment Committee

Testimony Submitted by Interim Commissioner Robert J. Klee
Presented by Deputy Commissioner Macky McCleary

Raised Senate Bill No. 68 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CERTAIN MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDES AND GRUB CONTROL PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding Raised Senate Bill No. 68 - AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CERTAIN MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDES AND GRUB CONTROL PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) generally supports this proposal and welcomes the opportunity to offer the following testimony.

This bill would allow several types of lawn care pesticides to be used on the grounds of middle and elementary schools as well as day care facilities. The pesticides the bill refers to are of low potential hazard when used in accordance with label directions.

In our communications with municipalities, control of grubs has been a common area of concern. As we read the language of Raised Senate Bill 68, most formulations of Acelepryn (a grub control pesticide) would be allowed although there are some formulations that carry danger, warning or caution “signal words” on their label. (A “signal word” is a defined term under the Code of Federal Regulations¹).

Thus, In order to be consistent with federal label language, we also respectfully suggest changing the language of subsection (1)(C) to the following on lines 15 through 17 of the raised bill: “(C) grub control product registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency that does not contain a product label with a caution, warning or danger indication-SIGNAL WORD”

For the Committee’s information, DEEP has hired Dr. Chensheng (Alex) Lu, Associate Professor of Environmental Exposure Biology at Harvard to perform a literature review and policy implication synthesis of the impact of EPA-registered pesticides that are most widely used on turf and school grounds on the health of children and pollinators, including synergetic effects, using top-tier, peer-reviewed scientific journals (expected February/March 2014). Dr. Lu also will be conducting a meta

analysis of the effect of the European Union ban on neonicotinods (expected June/July 2014), which he will publish the findings in a peer-reviewed journal.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact Robert LaFrance, DEEP's Director of Governmental Affairs, at 860.424.3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov (or, Elizabeth McAuliffe, DEEP Legislative Liaison, at 860.424.3458 or Elizabeth.McAuliffe@ct.gov).

ⁱ 40 CFR 156.64 <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title40-vol24/pdf/CFR-2011-title40-vol24-sec156-64.pdf>