

To The Honorable Ed Meyer and Linda Gentile and Members of the Environment Committee:

Please support SB 443 to ban toxic lawn pesticides from Connecticut high schools, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and municipal greens.

It is great that Connecticut has a law prohibiting the use of these poisons at day care centers and grounds of schools attended by children through grade 8. But why are we protecting some citizens in some places? We should be protecting every resident of Connecticut from these harmful chemicals, especially our children.

My 15-year-old daughter attends Hopkins School in New Haven. Hopkins has beautiful green grass, though 700 students walk on it every day; no lawn pesticides are used to maintain it.

On September 19, 2013, The New York Times reported that glyphosate, the most commonly-used lawn pesticide, not only kills weeds, it kills everything in the soil and leaves the ground hard as a rock and impossible to sustain any plant life. (Link to the article: <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/20/business/misgivings-about-how-a-weed-killer-affects-the-soil.html?pagewanted=1& r=0>)

Why are we ruining our earth, air, and water - and our health? We have other methods of encouraging plants we prefer and discouraging those we don't like.

You can prevent every citizen in our state from coming into contact with these poisons that have made so many so sick.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Laura Cahn
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