

Attn members of the Connecticut Legislature:

E.A. Quinn Landscape Contracting Inc. strongly opposes bill SB443. It is of our opinion that strictly limiting pesticides to organic solutions does not solve key issues. We have used organic fertilizers and pesticides in a number of trials. The long term results will show that field quality will decline rapidly. The play surfaces needed to prevent injury cannot be maintained properly without the use of synthetic products or a good IPM program. We feel that by passing this bill is strictly based on an “off the cuff” decision without truly looking at the research and studies on what effects this will have on our playing surfaces. We have seen firsthand what “all organic” programs for turf management will do to playing fields and parks. We work with a number of municipalities in the state that had tried to go all organic, and now are switching back to an IPM approach as organic products will not give us playing surfaces and fields that are satisfactory to prevent injuries. There have been several recent studies that continually show no link between pesticides and cancerous diseases in humans. I strongly urge you to make your decision on the facts and not the “ideas” of a few individuals. We are already seeing the negative effects of your decision to ban usage of pesticides on middle schools. The playing fields have never looked worse, and a number of municipal fields are having to be completely renovated continuously as you have taken all the tools out of the toolbox to rectify the situation. Should you wish to speak to us further on our side of this it would be greatly welcomed. Feel free to call or email me at anytime.

Matthew Bagshaw

Operations Manager

E. A. Quinn Landscape Contracting, Inc.