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Subject: REVISED AND FINAL TESTIMONY SUBMITTED PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF SB126 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS , Joyce Acebo~Raguskus, 174 Eastern Parkway, Milford, CT 203-306-8544
Attachments: TESTIMONY_SB126_CHILDRENS_CHEMICAL_EXPOSURES_2014Untitled_7.pdf

**Connecticut General Assembly
Testimony Before the Committee on Public Health
In Support of SB126 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S
EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS**

February 28, 2014 Hartford, CT

**Joyce Acebo~Raguskus, Chair Diesel cleanup, Environmental
Concerns Coalition, Clean Water Action, Advocate, Coalition For
A Safe & Healthy CT**

**My name is Joyce Acebo~Raguskus and I thank you for this
privilege to speak in support of SB126 AN ACT CONCERNING
CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS. PARENT'S HAVE THE
RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT IS IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS. THEY
HAVE A RIGHT TO A REPORT OF CHEMICALS OF HIGH
CONCERN. CT LEADS FIRST IN OUR NATION TO PASS A BAN
BPA, BISPENOL-A (endocrine disruptor), AND PASSING A
RIGHT TO KNOW BILL ON GMO'S. THIS IS THE SAME
CONSTITUTIONAL VISIT.**

**Chemical warfare is not a concept. The reality is that
vulnerability to chemicals occurs in utero, during infancy, and in
early childhood. The number of chemicals known to be toxic to
children's developing brains has DOUBLED OVER THE LAST
SEVEN YEARS! ref. Dr. Philip Landrigan, Mt. Sinai School of
Medicine, Dr. Philippe Grandjean, Harvard School of Public
Health.**

**WE ARE ALLOWING THE DELIVERY OF TOXIC BABIES INTO
OUR WORLD. NO WE CAN NOT CONTINUE TO ALLOW THIS.
Biomonitoring studies demonstrate hundreds of toxic chemicals
in umbilical cords...They do not belong there! I ask, is there
anyone here who would deny that the unborn are at war with
these chemical invaders. The industry that for decades has
flooded the consumer market with known toxins, supports this
invasion. We need to overhaul the regulatory process worldwide
in order to protect children's brains.**

These chemicals are permanently damaging to the brain. The fragile developing brain in utero, the body's most uniquely vulnerable organ, is in our hands, your hands, and everyone in this room...ally or not.

We have allowed this chemical warfare, with few regulations, federal safe chemical laws that have not been updated since the 70's (TSCA), leaving ourselves wide open to danger. Thirty years of study have identified neurotoxicants that impact brain development and cause a number of neurodevelopment disabilities, including attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, dyslexia and other cognitive damage, irreversible damage.

Whose side do we want to be on, the side of prevention for the unborn, or the side of destruction and contribution to rising illness in our children. PARENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW AND A LIST OF CHEMICALS OF CONCERN.

As Dr. Landrigan shares, children will struggle from birth and are at "risk of becoming the first generation in a century to live shorter, less healthy lives than their parents. Science is showing strong correlations between exposures to synthetic chemicals in the environment and increasing rates of such chronic diseases in children such as asthmas, autism. Type2 diabetes, ADHA, leukemia and yes brain cancer." This should be alarming to us all who have the mind to make healthy minds.

Do we want to continue flooding the umbilical with lead, methyl mercury, arsenic, polychlorinated biphenyls, (PCBS) and toluene, and there are too many more.

My goodness, what living cell has a chance for a healthy life?

In closing I would like to thank you for your continued diligence and compassion for the welfare of Connecticut's public health.

Joyce Acebo~Raguskus, 174 Eastern Parkway, Milford, CT 06460