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Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2014 11:43 AM
To: PHC Testimony
Subject: testimony in support of SB 126
Attachments: Connecticut_General_Assembly_SB126_K.pdf

I hope its not too late to submit this testimony. The author didn't know how to submit online and has now asked me to send it to you.

Thank you,
Susan Eastwood

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Thank you.

**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
Karen L. Hovan, Retired Connecticut Public School Educator
30 Deepwood Road, Stratford, Connecticut**

My name is Karen Hovan of Stratford, CT I support SB126 AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO CHEMICALS.

PARENT'S HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN ARE IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS. THIS BILL WILL PROVIDE SUCH A LIST.

During my 44 year teaching reign, I had the privilege of sharing my passion with thousands of inspiring students. Many were academically gifted. Others presented challenges not only to themselves, but to others as well. Such challenges were accepted and tailored individually to set the stage for an appropriate learning environment.

ADHD, Autistic Spectrum, Behavioral Issues, Learning Disorders and more are characteristic of the youth enrolled in our schools. Causes of the challenges these students present (neurodevelopment problems) are being defined by research, and are unfolding daily, and linked to exposures to toxic chemicals.

Additionally, some in the student population are described as lazy, unmotivated, forgetful and non compliant. They are not. The environment they were raised in played a key role in the characteristics they display.

In education, we are on the receiving end of the children our environment raises. We do not have the legislative power to make the changes necessary for all students to learn in a more positive way.

Teachers make significant changes in their classrooms to adapt to the challenges of environmental causes. Consider your concern and more importantly, the power of your vote. Here is an opportunity for you to make the necessary changes in the lives of the children we will teach. Your vote will either hinder their success or make them successful. I urge you to support SB126 calling for disclosure of a list of high chemical concerns for children.

Sincerely,

Karen L. Hovan

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