



TOWN OF KILLINGLY

KILLINGLY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

172 Main Street, P.O. Box 6000, Killingly, CT 06239

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Wednesday, February 25, 2015

1:15 PM

To: The Legislative Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Please accept this letter as public hearing testimony in support of:

H.B. 5174

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CHILDREN'S STATE FLOWER

Proposal to establish the Michaela Petit Four-O'Clock as the Children's State Flower

Killingly is honored to be one of the first towns in northeastern CT to host a Michaela's Garden. Located at the Killingly Public Library, it was established in 2014 through the initial efforts of Bernadette Schuster, Past Master at Killingly Grange with local Girl Scout assistance. Additional support for sponsorship and care of the garden is provided by the Killingly Agriculture Commission, Killingly Community Garden members, and the Killingly High School Ag-Ed program.

When a Michaela's Garden of four o'clocks is established, the simple act of planting seedlings and nurturing them to maturity becomes so much more. It provides a focus and project for engaging youth, reconnecting them to the earth through horticulture. It provides a special environment for reflection, meditation and respite during a busy day. It draws people closer in a stronger sense of community. It supports women in science through the Petit Family Foundation. It symbolizes and honors a young child and her family and all children. It helps all of us.

For these and many more reasons, I urge you to support HB 5174 and establish the Michaela Petit four o'clock as the CT children's state flower.

Thank you for your consideration,

Linda Walden
Director of Planning and Development
Killingly, CT

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