

Testimony of
Environment and Human Health, Inc.
By
Nancy Alderman, President

Bill 6897

AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES AT STATE-OPERATED
PARKS, ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Senator Dante Bartolomeo Representative Diana Urban and Members of the Committee on
Children

Environment and Human Health, Inc. is pleased to be in strong support of Bill 6897 - a Bill that
will remove lawn-care pesticides from parks and playgrounds - including our state parks.

Pesticides are designed to kill living things and so they are inherently toxic. We all know that
lawn-care pesticides are toxic and therefore exposures to them can be especially harmful to
children and pets. Some pesticides are neuro-toxins, some are carcinogens, some cause cell
mutations and some affect immune systems.

Many pesticides have the ability to disrupt endocrine systems, meaning that they can act like
female hormones, male hormones, or sometimes as endocrine blockers, meaning they stop one's
own natural ability to process female or male hormones. There is no data on the synergy effect of
pesticides. That is a problem for all of us, who in real life are exposed to chemicals in
combinations.

We must all begin to reduce our chemical exposures if we are to better protect the health of our
children and pets. Pesticide uses, especially those that are unnecessary and those that are simply
used on lawns for aesthetic reasons, must begin to be rethought and reduced.

In section (b) (1) it says, "No person shall apply pesticide or lawn care pesticide within any state-
operated park, athletic field or playground,". Shouldn't this Bill just address lawn-care
pesticides and not those that might be used indoors?

Perhaps section (b) (1) should say, "No person shall apply a lawn care pesticide within any
state-operated park, athletic field....."

Nancy Alderman, President
Environment and Human Health, Inc.
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