CAPSS

LEADERSHIP
FOR THE FUTURE OF LEARNING

TESTIMONY of the CT ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS
Before the Environment Committee

IN OPPOSITION TO:

S.B. No. 366 AN ACT EXTENDING THE BAN ON THE USE OF LAWN CARE PESTICIDES TO SCHOOLS THAT HOUSE GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE AND TO STATE FACILITIES

The CT Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) is opposed to S.B. NO. 366, *An Act Extending the Ban on the Use of Lawn Care Pesticides to Schools that House Grades Nine through Twelve and to State Facilities* for the following reasons.

- School systems presently employ a field management system that does not negatively impact student health and safety for schools that house grades nine through twelve. This system strikes a balance between the use of natural products and pesticides, a balance that does not harm students and that promotes fields that are both safe and usable for students in these schools. So, there is no compelling need to prohibit schools from using all pesticides on these fields.

- The ban that presently exists for fields at schools that house grades kindergarten through eight is already resulting in fields that are increasingly unusable and on which students are exposed to a greater and greater danger of injury. It makes little sense, therefore, to extend to grades nine through twelve in the name of student welfare a prohibition that is having the unintended consequence of impairing student welfare at schools that serve children in grades kindergarten through eight.

CAPSS, therefore, urges the Legislature not to enact S.B. No. 366 an Act Extending the Ban on the Use of Lawn Care Pesticides to Schools That House Grades Nine through Twelve and to State Facilities.

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