



**Connecticut Product Stewardship Council Testimony in Favor of RB 869  
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TIRE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM  
February 13, 2015**

Senator Kennedy, Representative Albis, Senator Chapin and Representative Shaban and members of the Environment Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of RB-869 "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TIRE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM"

We are Jen Iannucci and Winston Averill Co-Chairs of the Connecticut Product Stewardship Council.

The Connecticut Product Stewardship Council is an unincorporated entity, emerging as a grass-roots collaboration of state, regional, and municipal groups, as well as individuals. Members and Partners in the CTPSC recognize and support Product Stewardship (Extended Producer Responsibility) as an important approach to managing environmental impacts.

We are testifying in support of Raised Bill 869. The disposal of tires poses a significant cost to municipalities across Connecticut and often a cost and inconvenience to consumers as well.

This proposed legislation establishing a product stewardship program for tires follows Connecticut's successful precedent of similar efforts for electronics, paints, and most recently mattresses. All of these materials present different management issues, but all were successfully addressed within the auspices of product stewardship programs.

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs place primary financial responsibility for end of life product management on manufactures. The State's EPR legislation for e-waste and paint has significantly saved our municipalities and residents money and has demonstrated that EPR works when the right structure is put into place. These EPR programs have also increased recycling rates for these materials without placing a financial mandate on the municipalities.

Similarly scrap tires present their own unique disposal and management issues. There is a cost to properly manage old tires. Those seeking to avoid these costs create the landscape of unchecked disposal, resulting in unsightly tire piles, especially in our urban areas. The fiscal responsibility of addressing scrap tires inevitably falls on the public sector, cities and towns who expend resources to collect and properly dispose of tires.

I attended a recent two day national dialogue on scrap tire management held here in Hartford which brought together a wide range of stakeholders including tire manufacturers, state and local governments, tire processors, and cleanup groups. I was particularly impressed by the description of the tire EPR system in Ontario Canada. There program has virtually eliminated illegal dumping, while developing a recycling infrastructure that has created private sector jobs which favors products over Tire Derived Fuel. I believe we can replicate this program in Connecticut with some modifications and with similar results.

The CT PSC supports the passage of EPR legislation for tires that require manufactures to share the cost of the disposal and recycling of tires. We ask the Environment Committee to consider and support the proposed Raised Bill 869.

Winston Averill and Jen Iannucci – Co Chairs, CT PSC and on behalf of the CT PSC Members:

**REGIONS:**

**(HARRA)** Housatonic Regional Resource Authority  
**(CREOC)** Capitol Region East Operating Committee  
**(SSRRA)** Salisbury/Sharon Resources Recovery Authority

**TOWNS**

Fairfield  
Hamden  
Hartford  
Mansfield  
Middletown  
Naugatuck  
North Haven  
Orange

**NGOs**

(CRC) Connecticut Recycler's Coalition  
Sierra Club

**INDIVIDUALS**

Marty Mador  
Ed Reagan  
Marilynn Cruz Aponte  
Pedro Segarra, Mayor of the City of Hartford

