

**Written Testimony**  
**Senate Bill 366, An Act Extending the Ban on the Use of Lawn Care Pesticides to Schools that House Grades Nine to Twelve, Inclusive and to State Facilities and**  
**Senate Bill 1063 An Act Concerning The Application of Pesticides on School Grounds and Certain Public Spaces, Authorizing the Use of Certain Microbials and Reestablishing the**  
**Pesticide Advisory Council**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
**Environment Committee**

Senator Kennedy, Representative Alibis, Senator Chapin, Representative Shaban and members of the Environment Committee, I am writing in opposition of Senate Bill 366, An Act Extending the Ban on the Use of Lawn Care Pesticides to Schools that House Grades Nine to Twelve, Inclusive and to State Facilities and Senate Bill 1063 An Act Concerning The Application of Pesticides on School Grounds and Certain Public Spaces, Authorizing the Use of Certain Microbials and Reestablishing the Pesticide Advisory Council.

My name is Rachel Kelbacher, I am a mom of two active children who spend most of their time outdoors and are active young athletes. As a mom, the safety and well-being of our state's children is personal priority for me.

Senate Bill 366, An Act Extending the Ban on the Use of Lawn Care Pesticides to Schools that House Grades Nine to Twelve, Inclusive and to State Facilities causes me great concern because it removes the important tools available to protect my kids and their school play grounds and athletic fields from harmful pests. It also causes confusion about Integrated Pest Management, which includes the safe and proper use of pesticides to control problem insects and weeds. Some claim IPM will put children in harm's way due to the use of pesticide products when in reality, removing the option to treat harmful pest problems with pesticides in a judicious way, increases children's exposure to health risks caused by weeds, poisonous plants, and stinging insects.

Senate Bill 1063 An Act Concerning the Application of Pesticides on School Grounds and Certain Public Spaces, Authorizing the Use of Certain Microbials and Reestablishing the Pesticide Advisory Council also concerns me. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and our state's Department of Environment and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, rigorously review scientific and health data for all pesticide products before they are made available for sale and use. These agencies specifically consider benefits and risks to children when determining if a product can be registered.

I know it's safer for my children to play on lawns, recreational fields and open spaces that have been properly and effectively maintained by professionals.

Please oppose Senate Bills 366 and 1063. Thank you.