

**Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut
Public Hearing Before The Children's Health Committee
in Support of HB5299 An Act Concerning Toxic Flame Retardant Chemicals in
Children's Products & Upholstered Residential Furniture
on this day of March 3, 2016
Diane M. Lentakis, LMSW, MBA
81 West Rutland Road, Milford, CT 06461**

My name is Diane Lentakis of Milford, CT and I have been in the health care profession for the past twenty years.

I strongly support HB5299, An Act Concerning Toxic Flame Retardant Chemicals in Children's Products & Upholstered Residential Furniture.

I understand that babies and children are most vulnerable to the toxic effects of flame retardant chemicals. In fact, toddlers have 3 to 4 times the amount of flame retardants in their bodies when compared to their mothers. Many of my friends have grandchildren and it is horrifying to think about the amount of toxic chemicals that they are constantly exposed to. I happen to have many animals and they often sleep on my couches. If studies were conducted on animals and their exposure to these flame retardant chemicals, I can only imagine how much of these chemicals would be found in their blood!

Thank you, in advance, for supporting HB5299, AN Act Concerning Toxic Flame Retardant Chemicals in Children's Products & Upholstered Residential Furniture.