

February 22 2018

SUPPORT FOR: S.B. No. 104 (RAISED) AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF RESIDENTIAL AUTOMATIC PESTICIDE MISTING SYSTEMS.

Dear Senators Kennedy and Miner, Representative Demicco and members of the Environment Committee,

We are writing you on behalf of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut. Since 1982 CT NOFA and its members have been Cultivating an Organic Connecticut by educating and connecting farmers and consumers and advocating for more ecological methods of farming, gardening and land care. Our Organic Land Care Program has trained thousands of landscape professionals in organic methods.

**We strongly support SB 104, an act prohibiting the use of residential automatic pesticide misting systems.**

There are many problems with these currently unregulated systems, including:

1. They go against the best science on pest control which is Integrated Pest Management or IPM. IPM uses a toxic pesticide only after specifically detecting the pest, using all other less toxic methods first and only then using the minimal amount of pesticide to be effective. These automatic systems violate all of those principles.
2. These systems are likely to spray a toxic substance on children, pets, unsuspecting neighbors and wildlife.
3. The pesticides used are likely to harm other organisms including beneficial insects and even the organisms that otherwise would help control mosquitos.

With the innovative pollinator protection legislation this committee created Connecticut has made a big turn away from pesticides and toward greater biodiversity and ecosystem health.

These automatic pesticide misting systems are a big step in the wrong direction.

We'll be happy to answer any questions you have. Please let us know.

CT NOFA looks forward to working with you on environmental issues this session.

Best regards,  
Jeff Cordulack, Executive Director  
[jeff@ctnofa.org](mailto:jeff@ctnofa.org), (203) 613-8813

Bill Duesing, Organic Advocate  
[bduesing@mac.com](mailto:bduesing@mac.com), (203) 231-1790