IN SUPPORT OF HB 5329 – AAC THE USE OF FLAME RETARDANT CHEMICALS IN CHILDREN’S PRODUCTS AND UPHOLSTERED RESIDENTIAL FURNITURE

Senator Moore, Senator Suzio, Representative Urban, Represenative Zupkus and members of the Committee on Children: My name is Winston Heimer. I am Executive Vice President of the Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans.

I write on behalf of the 50,000 members of the CT Alliance for Retired Americans. Each year we determine those legislative issues which are important not only to our members, but to our children and grandchildren.

This year one of our priority issues is Raised Bill #5329- An Act Concerning The Use of Flame Retardant Chemicals in Children’s Products and Upholstered Residential Furniture. When first presented the obvious remark by our members is that the passage of this Bill should be a “no-brainer”. Why would anyone object to preventing the manufacture, sale, and distribution of children’s products containing certain flame retardant chemicals that would be harmful to children?

Having raised our own children, who are now adults and have children of their own, we are most concerned for the health of our dear grandchildren. Sleeping on crib mattresses, wearing flame retardant clothing, playing with toys containing harmful materials are causes of deep concern.

We urge the Committee to do the right thing and support Bill #5329.