



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
**SB 120 AAC USE OF CHLORPYRIFOS AND NEONICOTINOIDS  
FOR NONAGRICULTURAL USE**

**To:** Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Gresko, Vice Chairs Sen. Slap and Rep. Palm, Ranking Members Sen. Miner and Rep. Harding, Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

**From:** Lori Brown, Executive Director, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of CTLCV, thank you for the opportunity to voice our SUPPORT for SB 120 and to support the recommendations offered in the testimony of *Beyond Pesticides*.

### **Neonicotinoids**

Neonicotinoids are known to be one of the major factors in the death of pollinators as well as other wildlife including many endangered species. Lawns are the largest known source of neonic pollution in urban/suburban areas.

Current law bars four neonicotinoids from retail sale but allows their use on residential properties by certified pesticide applicators. Connecticut must bar use of those four pesticides by lawn care professionals certified as pesticide applicators.

### **Chlorpyrifos on Golf Courses**

[In 2019, Connecticut pest control companies sprayed approximately 758 gallons of chlorpyrifos on golf courses and crops.](#) It is clear that these pesticides and chemicals pose serious health threats to humans and wildlife. The proximity of these golf courses to residential areas in our state raise health concerns about the impacts of long-term exposure to these pesticides.

The federal government has banned chlorpyrifos on food crops, but **90% of chlorpyrifos usage in CT is on golf courses for cosmetic purposes.**

Other states and jurisdictions including New York, Hawaii, California, and the European Union have placed bans on chlorpyrifos due to health risks such as brain damage after prolonged exposure. It is time for Connecticut to follow suit and restrict the use of these pesticides on golf courses and nonagricultural properties.

CTLCV urges you to support SB 120 and to make changes to the language recommended by Beyond Pesticides to clarify and strengthen provisions related to neonicotinoids. Thank you.

CT League of Conservation Voters, 553 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105  
ctlcv.org | [ctlcv@ctlcv.org](mailto:ctlcv@ctlcv.org) | 860-236-5442