



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 6916  
**AAC The Use of Neonicotinoids**  
February 16, 2025

**To:** Honorable Co-Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Parker, and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 6916 to **restrict the widespread and unnecessary use of Neonicotinoids, a harmful toxic chemical that is poisoning our bird and pollinator populations.**

**Many experts consider neonicotinoids to be the "new DDT."**

Neonicotinoids or "neonics" are neurotoxic pesticides that are linked to massive bee and insect losses around the globe, vast water and soil contamination, ecosystem-wide harms, and human health concerns.

Just one seed coated with neonicotinoids can kill a small bird. Neonics do not effectively kill grubs in landscaped lawns, yet this chemical is widely used unnecessarily on golf courses and ornamental shrubs. The bill should ban these non-agricultural uses.

For farmers, seeds coated with neonics do not protect corn, soybean, or wheat seeds from predators. The use of neonics can actually reduce crop yields and damage soil health by killing off pollinators, beneficial bugs and microbes, and predators of insect pests. This is not a good "tool" to keep.

**Use of Neonicotinoids causes HIGH HARM with LOW BENEFITS.**

CTLCV aligns its comments with those of the CT Pesticide Reform coalition and urges passage of HB 6916 as part of a regional effort to strike a balance between environmental protection and ensuring the continued viability of neonics in certain contexts.

Thank you for considering legislation to protect wildlife, pets, pollinators, and human health from these dangerous chemicals.