



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Executive Director

February 19, 2026

Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Parker, Vice Chairs Sen. Hochadel and Rep. Bumgardner, Ranking Members Sen. Harding and Rep. Callahan, Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee,

Re: Proposed Raised Bill No. 5155 - An Act Concerning Pesticide Reporting Modernization – **Support Concept**

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) is a nine-member board that works independently of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to assess the condition of Connecticut's environment and report its findings annually to the Governor; recommend actions to improve state environmental programs; advise other state agencies on the environmental impacts of proposed projects; and investigate citizens' complaints and allegations of violations of environmental laws.

The Council **SUPPORTS** the concept identified in Raised Bill 5155 that would 1) enable the searching and tracking of certain data on restricted use pesticides that are applied in the state, and 2) require DEEP to collaborate with the Department of Agriculture to collect and make available information on pesticide treated seeds in the state. The Council notes that lists of certified applicators; registered pesticide businesses and dealers; certification information; pesticide registration information; annual summary reports and other filings are available through the Connecticut's eLicense website;¹ however, the information is not summarized and it would be very difficult to assess the quantity of restricted-use pesticides applied in the state. And while the availability of an online "user friendly" database of restricted use pesticides applied in the state would be of value to Connecticut's residents, the Council would also support additional resources for sampling, testing, and tracking of restricted-use pesticides in Connecticut's environment, and especially water sources for private drinking water wells.

Thank you for consideration of the Council's comments.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

¹ CT eLicense <https://www.elicense.ct.gov/>