



RIEEA

Rhode Island Environmental
Education Association

10 Davol Square, Suite 100
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
RIEEA.org

Jeanine Silversmith

On Behalf of the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association

In Support of H-5216 – Pesticide Control

House Committee on Education

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

The Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) supports H-5216, and respectfully urges its passage. This bill is necessary given the significant danger to human health, especially for toddlers, children, and adolescents, and the lack of awareness of and education about these dangers.

Restricting the use of pesticides and rodenticides in schools, pre-schools, and child-care centers will greatly decrease the threats to human health. Furthermore, there is grossly insufficient public awareness about the dangers of pesticides and rodenticides. Education is often overlooked as one of the best ways to address environmental issues and we very much appreciate that H-5216 requires that school departments provide information to parents and guardians about the application of these chemicals, which would help Rhode Islanders fully understand and avoid the dangerous consequences.

The RIEEA membership includes over 400 individuals including youth and students as well as 68 organizations¹ including Audubon Society of Rhode Island, Save The Bay, The Greene School, Nuestro Mundo Charter School, and The Compass School.

We urge you to pass this important legislation.

¹ <https://www.rieea.org/about-us/organizational-members/>