

**Trafton testimony in behalf of the Environment Council of Rhode Island supporting S2439  
Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee, April 29, 2026.**

Dear Chair Sosnowski and Honorable Committee Members,

I'm Peter Trafton from Providence, Co-VP of Policy for the Environment Council of Rhode Island (ECRI) writing with our strongest support of S2439, regarding pesticide control at schools and childcare centers, sponsored by Sen Vargas and colleagues.

Pesticides are typically dangerous poisons. It is essential that precautions be taken when they are applied in schoolyards or similar settings where children may not be aware of the danger, or even know that such toxic agents have been applied to an area in which they feel secure. This bill not only limits such use but requires that parents be informed to improve communication with the children.

ECRI was happy to see this bill presented last year, and disappointed when it was held for further study by your committee. We hope you will recognize its importance and pass it this year. We believe that S2439 will become a valuable and important protection for our children.

Thanks very much for considering my comments in ECRI's behalf.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PTrafton". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Peter Trafton  
Co-VP for Policy  
The Environment Council of Rhode Island