

To: Human Services Committee

**Re: Proposed Bill No. 5483 – An Act Concerning the establishment of a
Lifespan Respite Coalition**

With the recent passage of the federal legislation “Caregivers Lifespan Respite Act of 2006” – it is critical that Connecticut move forward with establishing a state-recognized Connecticut Lifespan Respite Coalition.

Connecticut families have exhibited the need for respite funding and providers for the lifespan. Anticipated funding for this family support will need to go through an established coalition.

Please support this bill, so that Connecticut can take advantage of the funding when it becomes available to the States.

**Karen Zrenda
Parent
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Other affiliations:

**Yale Center for Children with Special Health Care Needs
CT Family Support Council
PATH, Parent to Parent, Parents Available To Help
Camp Harkness Advisory Board**