



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

From: Representative Ron Burns, 77th District

To: Members of the Public Health Committee

Date: February 21st, 2007

RE: HB 5758- *An Act Eliminating Discrepancies in Regulations Governing Use of School Facilities.*

Chairman Handley, Chairman Sayers, Representative Carson, Senator Roraback and members of the Public Health Committee. I am here this morning to testify on behalf of proposed **HB 5758- "An Act Eliminating Discrepancies in Regulations Governing Use of School Facilities"**.

Currently the way the law works, it is possible for a child care center to fail to be up to Public Safety Regulations even though it is located inside of a school building that has passed the State Department of Education Regulations. These schools are held fit to house children all day long but after school the child care centers are held to a different standard. I have experienced times when a child care center located inside of a school cafeteria was told that the lighting or the window screens were not satisfactory for the children. I do not understand why the building is not adequate for child care when just a few short hours earlier it was perfectly fine for our children to attend school.

This proposal would not change the staffing of schools or child care centers, it would not require expensive renovations of our school buildings, and would not even affect child care centers that are located outside of school buildings. In fact, if this bill is signed into law there should not be any fiscal consequences shy of updating the statutes. I am sure when this law was put into affect it was done with good intent and those that imposed it did not foresee or expect to create the arbitrary discrepancies that have resulted.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts and comments regarding this proposal. I believe this is a common sense proposal that will have no ill affects on the budget, on our schools, or on child care centers. If you have any questions regarding this bill or would like to discuss it further, please feel free to contact my office.