



House Bill 6840 – An Act Concerning Screening for Kidney Disease

Testimony of Henry S. Amdur, M.D.
Chairman Connecticut Section American College of American College of
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Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee:

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to be heard today. I'm here to speak in support of H.B. 6840, An Act Concerning Screening for Kidney Disease.

My name is Henry S. Amdur and I am a practicing obstetrician & gynecologist in New London, Connecticut. I am also the Chairman of the Connecticut Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. I have been practicing in New London for 21+ years and was also Chairman of the Department of Ob/Gyn at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital for over a decade.

In these roles I have had the opportunity to interact with practicing Obstetricians and Gynecologist throughout the State. House Bill 6840 we believe clarifies an ambiguity in the original law passed last year, which sought to ensure that patients in Connecticut would be screened for kidney disease whenever they visited their physicians for an "annual physical examination." The bill would exempt gynecologists who perform annual gynecological examinations and clarify that what were intended to be covered were "routine general medical examinations."

The routine Ob/Gyn annual exam typically does not include blood work. Many offices do not have the capability to draw blood

work in their offices and fewer still have the medical equipment to run these tests. Historically we in health care have deferred to our family practice and internal medicine physicians to order these tests. Without the clarification that H.B.6840 provides, I fear that there will be duplicity of testing which will place an additional strain on already limited health care resources.

We will continue to order visit appropriate lab work for our patients when their clinical presentation suggests and will order the creatinine test when it is indicated. We do, however, encourage you to approve the change. Thank you very much.

Steve S. Fisher MD