



March 8, 2007

To Members of the Human Services Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of and urge you to issue a Join Favorable vote to ***Raised Bill No. 7233, AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH CARE ACCESS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS.*** I am the owner of Pediaflex Therapy Center with offices in Glastonbury and in West Hartford at Cornerstone Aquatics Center. We provide physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, aquatics, school based services, home care, educational consulting, behavior analysis, and psychological services for children birth through adolescents. Approximately 15% of our patients are Medicaid recipients, and this bill is a reasonable compromise to an ongoing public health concern.

It has been very helpful to the families for our office to schedule appointments at their child's daycare facility, and it will be very helpful to include *all* Medicaid recipients, not just Husky Plan, Part A. The families of these severely disabled children have expressed appreciation for the flexibility in our schedules in meeting their medical and health needs at the children's day care centers. These families also express that they see improved carryover of skills and functional development when activities can be practiced in their natural settings. Many children with special health care needs require services above and beyond what the schools provide, and it is a natural opportunity for our clinicians to attend to these kids needs in after school daycare settings.

Please support Raised Bill No. 7233, An Act Concerning Health Care Access for Children with Special Health Care Needs. Thank you!!

Respectfully,

Matthew Luginbuhl, P.T.
Owner and Physical Therapist
Pediaflex Therapy Center, LLC