STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
March 5, 2007

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House Bill 7193 - An Act Concerning a Waiver from State Licensure Regulations for Hospice-Only Providers

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The Department of Public Health opposes House Bill 7193.

The Department licenses and regulates home health agencies that may provide hospice care as one of a number of services. Passage of this bill will allow the waiver of certain requirements of the home health agency regulations for those agencies who decide to offer hospice services only. The Commissioner of Public Health could grant such waivers if the hospice-only provider is in compliance with Title 18/Medicare conditions of participation.

The Department developed the regulations for hospice home care with input from the industry and current provisions were felt to be necessary in order to provide for patient safety and quality of care.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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