



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE March 5, 2007

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House Bill 7222 - An Act Concerning Use of Unlicensed Assistive Personnel in Residential Care Homes

The Department of Public Health opposes House Bill 7222.

- Currently regulations governing Residential Care Homes address the administration of medication in this healthcare setting and educational requirements for medication administration by staff. Additionally, on-going training is required. There appears to be no need for additional regulation in these areas.
- Although "electronic devices" may record readings, it is not clear how the outcomes of this information-gathering by the unlicensed personnel are to be utilized. The Department has concerns regarding how the information residential care home staff obtain from electronic devices (e.g. weights, blood pressures, temperatures, glucose monitoring) would be utilized. The Department notes that unlicensed staff do not have the knowledge or legal authority to adjust medication doses based upon the results obtained from such devices. Medication dose adjustments require a more indepth assessment by a registered nurse, APRN or physician.

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

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