



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES February 26, 2008

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MBA, MPH, Commissioner

Senate Bill 34 - An Act Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations with Respect to Social Services Programs

The Department of Public Health supports the Governor's recommendations in Senate Bill 34.

In particular, DPH supports Section (4), which strengthens requirements pertaining to the training of unlicensed personnel to administer medications to residents residing in residential care homes who are not capable of performing such tasks. The Department is especially pleased that programs and funds have been allotted for such training. Additionally, enhancing services provided by licensed residential care homes will enable professional resources currently being devoted to medication administration in residential care homes to be redeployed, thus helping to ease the health care work force shortage.

The Department recommends clarifying the language by removing the word "subcutaneous" from lines 139 and 156. This change is consistent with the bill's intent that trained but unlicensed personnel should not administer injectables, whether subcutaneous, intramuscular or intravenous, except the premeasured syringes referenced in the bill.

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

Phone:



Telephone Device for the Deaf: (860) 509-7191

410 Capitol Avenue - MS # _____

P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134

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