



CT Association of Centers for Independent Living
151 New Park Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
v. 860-656-0430 fax 860-656-0496

*Testimony Submitted to the Human Services Committee
In Support of:*

**Senate Bill No. 561 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON
PROJECT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A LONG-TERM CARE TRUST FUND.**

Submitted By: Gary E. Waterhouse,
Public Hearing Date: March 4, 2008

To Senator Harris, Representative Villano and members of the Human Services Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this important legislative initiative.

My name is Gary Waterhouse; I am the Executive Director of the CT. Association of Centers for Independent Living, the membership organization of Connecticut's five (5) Centers for Independent Living.

I am writing in **support** of **Senate Bill No. 561 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON PROJECT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A LONG-TERM CARE TRUST FUND.**

"CACIL and the five (5) Centers for Independent Living have administered and managed the Nursing Facility Transition Project (NFTP) the precursor of "Money Follows the Person" (MFP) for the CT. Department of Social Services since its inception.

MFP has *many benefits*:

- Cost in the *community is 2/3 on average cost of nursing homes* or other equivalent institution. (compares nursing home costs to their waivers, and ICF-MR costs to their waivers.)
- There *won't be backfill or woodwork* because nursing homes are an entitlement and there are no waiting lists for nursing homes. ICFs-MR can close the beds when people leave.
- *Doesn't bump people on waiting lists* because uses funds paying for person in the nursing home or other institution, not waiver funds.

A Long-Term Care Trust Fund will recycle MFP savings into increased services and supports for qualified individuals.

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 561.