

**Phillips, Jeanie**

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**From:** Debra Jurasus [dajurasus@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 24, 2008 11:38 AM  
**To:** Senator Harris; Rep. Villano, Peter; Phillips, Jeanie  
**Cc:** DSS.healthcare@ct.gov  
**Subject:** Charter Oak Health Plan  
**Attachments:** 1835620627-Charter Oak Plan.wps.txt

Dear Committee members:

I have taken this opportunity to write you and your committee about the proposed delay of this much needed health plan. Please take the time to read it and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [dajurasus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dajurasus@sbcglobal.net) or at my home at 860-956-9681. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Debra A Jurasus

February 24, 2008

Human Services Committee  
Co-Chairs Senator Harris and Senator Villano

Re: Raised Bill 5617 and delay of Charter Oak Health Plan

Dear Senators and Committee,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of a delay in this propose health care for people like myself, who, by no fault are unable to acquire health insurance and need urgent care now! I have been following this since Governor Rell proposed this idea, and thought it was finally a reality, when I was appalled to learn of this possible delay, which to me and others means dead in the water.

I will tell you a little about myself. For starters I am a diabetic since the age of 14( it runs on both sides of my family), I'm now 45. Due to complications from it I have not worked and get disability. Now, before you say there is Medicaid for people like myself, let me tell you, I've been down that road already. Hardly any doctors accept it, and my experience with ones that have taken it is horrible. For example, about 2 years ago I had it and made an appointment with an eye doctor for a routine problem from allergies. Well, this doctor should lose his license because he did the fastest exam for eyes I've ever seen, and then said I had GLACOMA and not just beginning but advance stage, and wanted me to put these drops in my eyes every hour I was awake. Well, good thing I didn't take his word, I went to another doctor and learned I had no such problem, but I do have CATARACTS( which I already detected) from my diabetes. This is just one example of how I have been treated and because of their rules of putting a lien on someone's home I'm uninsured. My eyes have gotten worse, and I know they are at the point where these cataracts need to come out, but I can't afford it. I've looked into getting health insurance, and the first thing they ask is are you DIABETIC, and then SORRY! People don't ask to get an illness or get sick, but when they do they need a way to resolve it, and need feel like they are treated like dirt on the street either.

I'm lucky in that my primary care doctor fills out a form for me to get my insulin from the company-Lily, otherwise I could not even get that. I live in constant pain and can't afford the necessary test, such as blood work every three months as recommend for diabetics. I'm lucky if I can save for once a year at the cost. I could go on and on, but I know there are a lot of others that are in the same situation or worse then me. We are suppose to be the richest country, and this is suppose to be the wealthiest state, yet there are millions of us suffering when there is a resolution at your fingertips. If this scenario was one of your family members or a close relative, wouldn't you feel betrayed and outraged by your government and elected officials? All people like me are asking for is our fair shake. We are not seeking handouts, just to have the opportunity to get a human right given to us. Our neighbors north of us in Canada have had this for years, as well as many European countries---- heck Massachusetts has everyone with insurance. This is a disgrace to us citizens of Connecticut- the highest charged for everything- from electric to basic needs.

Not everyone is lucky enough to have a great job where medical is provided, and the best medical at that! Just put yourselves in the place of people like me, and see what it's like. It's not a good feeling trust me. Before you take away this chance for all Connecticut citizens that need it, think of what we are saying. If you delay this, even by one year, in that time frame people like me are getting sicker, and the cost will then be more then it would be if given the chance to take care of the problems now.

I like to believe you are caring people and will take this very seriously, and not just file it in the garbage. I'm sorry if you think my comments are harsh and my tone sarcastic, but if you were treated like me, I'm sure you would feel the same way. Stop dangling the carrot over our heads and do something. The children of Connecticut have been taken care, now it's time to care for their caregivers.

Please do the right thing by us Connecticut citizens and tax payers (voters) and help get The Charter Oak Health Plan enacted As Soon AS

Charter Oak Plan wps.txt  
Possible- without a delay of a year or more.  
Sincerely,  
Debra A Jurasus