2/26/08

Good morning/afternoon members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Barbara Albert, registered CT voter, Hfd tenant, advocate/activist for human rights, and multiply medically challenged ~~human being~~.

I'm here to express my support of H.B. 5617 (Raised), An Act Delaying Implementation of and Making Revisions to the Charter Oak Health Plan.

This Health Plan excludes CTs current Mental Health Parity Law, mandating that coverage for mental health services be no more costly than any other medical services. There are also limits on outpatient and inpatient care. CT will not only be violating its own law, this "health plan" also violates the Federal law, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Federal Medicare Beneficiary Rights, our Constitutional Rights, to "life, liberty, and what I prefer to call, the alledged "pursuit of happiness." Not to mention in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25 - "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care, and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age, or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control."

Illness is illness. Everyone is Eligiable.

Thank you for listening.