



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE February 27, 2009

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House Bill 5635 - An Act Concerning the Administration of Ultrasound Procedures

The Department of Public Health opposes House Bill 5635 as written.

This bill would mandate that ultrasound procedures administered to a patient shall only take place in a facility licensed by the Department of Public Health.

Ultrasound procedures currently are being safely, legally and effectively utilized under the direction of an appropriately licensed practitioner in settings not regulated by the Department of Public Health such as physicians' offices and radiology practices. This bill will **negatively impact patient access to these procedures.**

With the exception of physician practices where deep or moderate sedation is utilized, the Department does not currently inspect and license physician offices. The establishment of a new licensure category for physician offices or other settings in which ultrasound procedures are performed would have a **significant fiscal impact** on the Department.

Recommended Substitute

This bill appears to attempt to address the performance of elective, non-diagnostic ultrasounds by non-medical, commercial entities.

The Department would suggest prohibiting the performance of ultrasound procedures other than those ordered by a licensed health care practitioner with applicable statutory authority.

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

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