

NANCY B. McDOWELL, MSW, LCSW

Representative Denise Merrill
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Room 4106
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

February 5, 2009

RE: HB 6266 - An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture

Dear Denise:

I'm writing as an acupuncture patient, asking you to support House Bill 6266 - An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture, which has been raised by the Public Health Committee. Acupuncture has been key to my recovering from paralysis in my hand that was caused by stenosis in my spine. I have also had treatment for other ailments, ranging from an ear infection to bronchitis to stiffness in my legs. Further, I have maintenance treatments as part of my wellness program. Acupuncture is invaluable to me and I support this bill whole-heartedly.

HB 6266 provides Title Protection to acupuncturists in our state. This title protection is an important way to inform and protect health care consumers, and identify the unique credentials of providers with a Connecticut acupuncture license.

[a] It helps consumers find practitioners who are licensed acupuncturists, trained under nationally-recognized accreditation standards in the modality of acupuncture and oriental medicine.

[b] It helps patients understand the credentials of the practitioners who are treating them.

[c] It provides an equitable recognition to state-licensed acupuncturists, giving them the same kind of professional title protection that virtually all other Connecticut health professionals enjoy.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk to you more about this, should it be necessary. Thank you for all of your work on our behalf.

As Ever,



Nancy B. McDowell

Cc: Senator Jonathan Harris and Representative Elizabeth Ritter
co-chairs, Public Health Committee