



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON AGING February 19, 2009

Joan Leavitt, Section Chief, Facilities Licensing and Investigation Section, (860) 509-7409

Senate Bill 876 An Act Concerning Liability of Nursing Home Owners for Neglect and Abuse of Nursing Home Residents and Criminal Records Checks

The Department of Public Health provides the following information with regard to Senate Bill 876.

- Section (a) of this bill proposes the Department change it's application materials for Nursing Homes to include a statement that identifies administrative nursing home staff, ownership, trustees etc. may be subject to civil, criminal, and administrative sanctions for abuse and neglect perpetuated by an employee of the home. The Department feels that the application materials are not the appropriate conduit for such information. Additionally, this is not a requirement for any other licensed health care entity.
- Section (b) of this bill is already a requirement of CGS 19a-491b, requiring a criminal records check upon initial application and any change in ownership.

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

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