



NARAL  
Pro-Choice Connecticut

Education Committee

HB 6494, An Act Concerning Teen Dating Violence Education

Written Testimony of Jillian Gilchrest, Executive Director

NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut

February 23, 2009

NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut is a statewide political advocacy not-for-profit that works to guarantee every woman the right to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive choices, including prevention unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children, and choosing legal abortion.

I am writing in support of HB 6494, An Act Concerning Teen Dating Violence Education and to ask you to consider broadening this bill to include comprehensive, medically accurate and age appropriate sex education. Connecticut students need a well rounded health curriculum that starts in Kindergarten and lasts through their senior year in high school which includes all health related topics including teen dating violence, healthy relationships and sex education.

While I certainly believe that preventing teen dating violence is an extremely important public health issue, it should not be addressed in a vacuum but rather should be part of a broad curriculum that addresses healthy relationships and decision making.

I hope you will take my suggestions into account when you vote on this very important piece of legislation.

Thank you.

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