

Good Morning, Senator Doyle, Representative Walker and distinguished members of the Human Services committee. I am here today to express concerns about **H.B. 5243 An Act Concerning Sober Homes**.

There are many reasons why people go into recovery houses. The reason I came into one was to leave the halfway house. I believe everything happens for a reason. This place is great for my recovery because I have to do meetings, be responsible, and it keeps me around the right people. I tell people who want to learn how to live life on life's terms, a recovery house is a great place to start. I plan to stay here for a while because I have a lot of work to continue in my recovery, and want to help other addicts get into places like this so they can become responsible, recovering addicts like me.

Please do not put in place a statute that may well jeopardize access to housing for persons striving to recover their lives and become productive members of society. Please consider working with DMHAS, the Recovery Housing Coalition of CT and the recovery community to accommodate community needs. Thank you.

Michael Bunker