

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.**

Sober housing was a major stepping stone for me as I worked hard to get my life on track. It gave me the structure and safety I needed in early recovery. I have also had the privilege of managing two sober houses over a span of three years. It is difficult for many of us to get into sober housing due to availability, funding and such.

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.

Kathleen James