

CT ASSOCIATION OF AGING AND SERVICE PROVIDERS
MARCH 2, 2010
HUMAN SERVICE COMMITTEE TESTIMONY

The Ct Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Providers support SB # 283. As this state's largest meal providers to homebound seniors we are well aware of the detrimental effect our current system of audit penalties has on our most vulnerable population.

Although this association's meal providers have had impeccable audit results we fully understand that even small audit findings under current audit regulations result in fewer meals to this state's elderly residents.

Due to the nature of our service many meal programs provide a high volume of service that allows the smallest of errors to lead to large penalties. In addition, we are part of larger sponsoring agencies that sponsor smaller programs that also fall under DSS audit regulations. Current regulations calculate penalties on an agency's entire volume imposing penalties on small programs that exceed the amount of money that program received under their DSS contract.

It would be expected that any finding of fraud would result in strict and costly penalties however clerical errors should not have penalties that far exceed the value of the error and ultimately adversely affects the seniors our programs are contracted to serve.

SB #00283 offers reasonable regulations for minor penalties that will not bankrupt programs that are committed to serving the state of CT's elderly residents. We fully support the passing of this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel Sekorski, President
CT Association of Nutrition and
Aging Service Providers