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Testimony of
David Scata, Past President & Legislative Chairperson of ConnCASE
Education Committee
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Raised Bill: 6422

AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION AND TUITION COSTS OF STUDENTS WHOSE HEALTH CONDITION REQUIRES THEM TO ATTEND A DIFFERENT SCHOOL THAN WHICH WOULD NORMALLY BE ASSIGNED FOR SUCH STUDENT.

Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann, and Distinguished Members of the Education Committee; my name is David Scata, Past President & Legislative Chairperson of ConnCASE. ConnCASE represents over two hundred public school administrators of special education in the state of Connecticut.

I am concerned with the language of the bill being presented. A significant change in a student's placement whether within a school district or out of district placement must be under the guidance of IDEA and/or 504.

The language in the raised bill: "provided a physician certifies that attendance by such student would otherwise attend due to the student's residency poses immediate and long-term health risks" is too vague.

Significant change in a student's educational placement by law cannot be decided by one person but must be determined by a Planning and Placement Team meeting under IDEA regulations or must be determined by a 504 meeting under the guidance of American with Disability Act.

I encourage the legislatures, not to approve the Raise Bill 6422 and seek further clarification as to the intent of the concern being raised.