

Testimony of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists  
Submitted to the Human Services Committee  
HB 6322  
An Act Concerning State Prescription Drug Purchasing  
February 14, 2011

On behalf of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on **HB 6322, An Act Concerning State Prescription Drug Purchasing**.

As a background, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) is the international professional association representing consultant and senior care pharmacists, providing leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to advance the practice of senior care pharmacy. Consultant and senior care pharmacists are essential participants in the health care system, recognized and valued for the practice of pharmaceutical care for the senior population and people with chronic illness. For millions of senior citizens and individuals with chronic illnesses, consultant and senior care pharmacists play a vital role in ensuring optimal drug therapy.

ASCP is concerned about the changes in reimbursement levels to Medicaid and other state assistance programs proposed in this bill. Since 1991, pharmacy reimbursement rates have declined steadily and any reduction in our rates would have a severe negative impact on our association's membership. These rates are critical to the success and survival of our State's long-term care pharmacies.

That being said, we understand that this bill is a work in progress and we look forward to working with all parties involved as this bill moves forward.

Thank you,

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President, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, Connecticut Chapter