

I am Geri Ann Bradley, pharmacist and owner of Beacon Prescriptions, 25 Collins Road, Bristol, CT 06010.

I am extremely opposed to HB 6322 for many reasons. The simplest being that this bill is anti-small business which is contrary to the Governor's message. The Governor said that the only way out of the budget crisis we find ourselves in is to stimulate jobs. He said that taxing and cutting would not solve the problem. We must create jobs. Well this bill obviously does not do that. The average pharmacist makes \$60 to \$70 an hour. If a pharmacy were to sell a prescription for what the prescription cost plus a \$2.90 dispensing fee they would clearly be put out of business. The vial alone costs \$ 0.40 with the label and ink costing another \$0.20 and of course the bag for \$ 0.10 leaves us with \$2.20 to pay for the rent, the lights, the pharmacist and the auxillary personnel. You do the math. This will close pharmacies which in turn will limit access for the Medicaid population. This will put tax paying phamacies, pharmacists and their employees out of work. I have 20 employees on my current payroll. This does not create jobs. This will move the proposed 66,000,000 worth of revenue out of the state. This doesn't make sense, clearly. Please oppose this bill. Connecticut needs to change its reputation about not being business friendly or our budget problems are only going to get worse.

Thank You.