

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this letter urging you to **OPPOSE the House Bill 6322**, AAC Sate Prescription Drug Purchasing, scheduled for public hearing on Monday February 14<sup>th</sup> 2011, I am deeply concerned about the possible outcomes on enactment of the provisions in the bill.

The portion of the bill states that **"The state shall reimburse for all legend drugs provided under the Medicaid, SAGA, ConnPACE and Connecticut AIDS drug assistance programs at a rate equal to the actual cost of procurement by the Comptroller plus a professional fee of \$2.90."**

I am a Independtly run community pharmacy in Waterbury, I opened the Pharmacy in 2009 and currently have 8 employees other than me. I work as a full time Pharmacist/Owner in the Pharmacy. We all work very hard every day to make ends meet and keep the business running.

We take pride in our services which include free prescription delivery to most of our customers. This free delivery is helpful for clients who are either home bound or do not have transportation to go places to get their prescriptions and is a great advantage to the community where people depend on public transportation to go places

As of what I understand about the Bill " The Pharmacy will be reimbured at the cost price and a dispensing fee of \$2.90" .I am not sure how the comptroller would determine the cost of goods and also if the operating expenses of each pharmacy has been taken into consideration.

If we look at the operational budget we need to cover for the rent ,utilities,car,gas ,insurance apart from the cost of the labels ,vials and stationary.I fail to understand the standpoint behind the \$2.90 dispensing fee proposed by the Comitte.The average cost to fill a prescription today for Medicaid is around \$13.00-\$15.00 .

We all do agree someting has to be done to fix the gaps in the State budget but I don't think getting to close all the small independent pharmacy would help close the budget gap.In a way we are paving way for a bigger problem, by closing shop firstly we would creat more unemployment and secondly we are reducing access to the general population in getting their medications delivered on time.

**I urge all the distinguished members of the Human Services Committee, Insurance Committee, and Public Health Committee to OPPOSE the House Bill 6322 and help sustain the business.**

Sincerely,

Waterbury Pharmacy

Waterbury Ct 06702