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Legislative Testimony
Joint Insurance Committee Public Health Committee, & Human Services Committee
HB 6308 AA Establishing The CT Healthcare Partnership
HB 6305 AAC Implementation Of The SustiNet Plan
Monday, February 14, 2011
(David L. Fried, DMD

Good afternoon to the Chairs of the Insurance Committee Senator Crisco & Representative Megna, Chairs of the Public Health Committee Senator Stillman and Representative Ritter, & to the Chairs of the Human Services Committee Senator Musto and Representative Tercyak, my name is David Fried and I have been practicing dentistry for over 20 years in the town of Wallingford. I thank you for the opportunity to present this written testimony to you in support of HB's 6308 and 6305.

HB 6308: offers coverage under the state employee plan to ..."small employers" which I believe would include dental offices. This hopefully will lower the cost burden of insurance plans, allowing Dental offices and other small businesses to offer health insurance to all employees.

HB6305 AAC Implementation Of The SustiNet Plan: Lines 825-834 discusses a plan called "SustiNet G" which must include "comprehensive, commercial-style benefits, including vision, dental...with an emphasis on prevention that includes encouraging individual responsibility for controllable health risks ..." Lines 1365-1375 states in part that SustiNet Plans shall include...dental care coverage that shall be comparable in scope to the median coverage provided by large employers in the Northeast states..." Any program that supports preventative dental care should be applauded. Dental disease, which has been linked to other health issues including heart disease, diabetes, and low birth-weight children, is a very controllable disease.

In closing, I would like to again thank the Committees for allowing me to submit testimony. If you have any questions I would happy to talk to on the phone or answer them via email.

Sincerely,

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