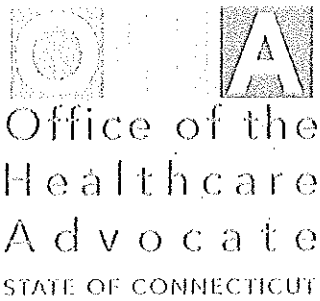
6306



Testimony of Victoria Veltri
Acting Healthcare Advocate
Before the Insurance and Real Estate Committee
HB 6306
February 22, 2011

Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Megna, Senator Kelly, Representative Coutu and the members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. For the record, I am Victoria Veltri, the Acting Healthcare Advocate. The mission of the Office of the Healthcare Advocate is: assuring managed care consumers have access to medically necessary healthcare; educating consumers about their rights and responsibilities under health insurance plans; and, informing you of problems consumers are facing in accessing care and proposing solutions to those problems.

OHA supports HB 6306, *An Act Concerning The Listing Of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses In Managed Care Organization Provider Listings, And Primary Care Provider Designations.* This is a common sense measure to ensure the accessibility and availability of primary care providers to managed care enrollees in an era when access to primary care physicians is becoming more difficult.

We'd like to point out a concern with the intent of the bill. It is unclear from the current language of the bill whether only APRNs in private practice will be listed or whether APRNs who are part of a physician's practice are also to be included, assuming they are also participating providers.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony. If you have any concerns, please contact me at Victoria.veltri@ct.gov or (860) 297-3982.

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