

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee

Re: Raised Bill 1050, AAC The Availability of Automatic External Dfibrillators in Certain Health Care Settings

My name is Marty Halloran and I am the owner/administrator of Manor on Pine Street in Waterbury and the President of the Connecticut Association of Residential Care Homes (CARCH).

Unlike the other facilities and services mentioned in RB 1050, residential care homes (RCHs) are NOT health care settings. No clinical services are provided by a residential care Hhome. Homes are not reimbursed through health insurance or Medicaid but through the State Supplement (Aid to Aged, Blind and Disabled) because a residential care home is not a medical facility as a nursing home is.

Residential care homes provide a home for many elderly and disabled people in our communities who have reached the time in their lives when they can no longer live alone. RCHs are “home-like” and tend to be small. The average size home is 25 beds.

The residents are individuals who need assistance with the activities of daily living such as meal preparation, shopping, laundry, housekeeping, chores. The unlicensed staff help with these activities but also encourage them to remain as independent as they can for as long as possible. The homes are able to maintain the health of individuals and prevent many of the problems associated with living alone.

I would respectfully request that you not include residential care homes in this bill because the residents are independent, able to move around and are not receiving medical care in the homes. The setting and the services are very different from the clinical services mentioned in the bill.