

Holly Hollister, L.Ac.

16 Liberty St. Newington, CT 06111

SB1052- An act concerning the Practice of Acupuncture

Testimony of Holly Hollister, L.Ac.

Public Health Committee Public Hearing March 2nd, 2011

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public health Committee:

I am writing as both an acupuncturist and an acupuncture patient in the state of Connecticut, where I was born, educated, and attended Acupuncture College. It is where I have lived my entire life and where I intend to retire. In fact, my family founded the town of Glastonbury.

Thank you for raising this bill regarding the Practice of Acupuncture. I urge you to approve it in Committee and also support it's advance through the Senate and House floors.

My life and health were so changed by this wonderful type of healthcare that 25 years ago I quit a 13 year public teaching position to become educated and licensed in the field of Acupuncture. I was trained in western physiology in order to teach Health Education. I then found myself immersed in schooling that used a very different paradigm and different form of diagnostics and terminology to determine underlying imbalance in the body. Using various acupuncture modalities I learned to effect change in a person's health. Magically it worked.

When I first started, there were no laws on the books concerning the practice of Acupuncture in Connecticut, and no way to find out about it except by word of mouth. When I learned the scope and power of this type of healthcare I was truly amazed. As I continue to be today as I watch patient after patient overcome illness.

I feel this Practice Act change, which more fully describes the scope and depth this health care has to offer, is in the best interest of our Connecticut patients. It fully describes the profession in order to help consumers make informed choices. This would be quite unlike in the 70's when I walked into my first appointment not knowing what to expect. As luck would have it the acupuncture profession is made up of exceptionally dedicated and gifted people. It's time to make that public knowledge.

I appreciate your time and effort on our behalf and I thank the committee for raising SB 1052.

Respectfully yours,

Holly Hollister, L.Ac.

860-667-9432