

FTR

State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR ROBERT J. KANE
THIRTY-SECOND DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 3400
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8875
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-1421
FAX: (860) 240-8306
E-mail: Rob.Kane@cga.ct.gov

DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER

RANKING MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

February 8, 2011

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

I write to express my support for **SB 308: AAC Community Based Health Services**

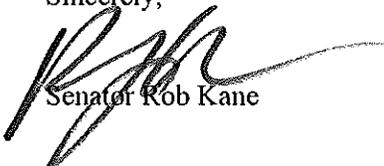
This bill aims to help middle class families in my district and across the state who are struggling to afford health services for their loved ones.

SB 308 would require that the Insurance Commissioner explore an incentive-based system that would allow and encourage private insurance companies to expand coverage to community-based health treatment services like home-based services and early preventative care for children with mental health disorders or developmental disabilities. This bill would also improve coverage of outpatient services for this same group of insurers.

In Connecticut, benefits such as Medicaid cover these services. However, those who purchase insurance do not have access to the same services as those individuals who receive Medicaid. For example, only low-income individuals and those on Medicaid have access to home-based mental health treatment and early intervention services. Residents who purchase commercial services do not have the same access because commercial plans refuse to cover these services.

The current system is unbalanced. Your support for this bill will provide a remedy for that imbalance and provide much needed relief for the middle class working families in Connecticut.

Sincerely,



Senator Rob Kane