

Human Service Committee
Room 2000, Legislative Office Building
Hartford , CT 06106

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Connecticut licensed respiratory therapist with over 30 years of experience, I am requesting that the language of HB 5476 ' An Act Expanding Consumer Choice for Skilled Nursing Care At Home' be amended to include licensed respiratory therapists as those who may provide services under this pilot project.

I support the intent of HB 5476, a pilot project to offer a home care option to ventilator dependent patients in need of skilled care. I have helped take care of ventilator dependent patients in an acute care hospitals and I truly understand patient and family needs and concerns when it is time to transition care out of the hospital.

My concern, however, is that licensed respiratory therapists, who are the primary clinician that provides care to ventilator patients, are omitted from the bill language.

Respiratory therapists should be an invaluable part of the health care team who support these patients.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Donna Barnick, RRT-NPS
Guilford, CT