

FTR

**Testimony of Kate Emery
Re
H.B. No. 5487 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
SMALL BUSIENSS HEALTHCARE WORKING GROUP & CLAIMS
INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED BY INSURERS**

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

Submitted to the Connecticut General Assembly's Insurance & Real Estate Committee

Dear Committee Members:

I am a Business Owner employing 50 people and I am in support of this bill.

Small business owners with fewer than 50 employees, and the self-employed will be able to take advantage of the state's bargaining power, enabling them to get the best care at the best price.

My sister owns a small general contractor's business and it's next to impossible for her to get insurance at anything but exhorbidant prices, and she's the type of small business we need in the state. We shouldn't be making it harder for companies like hers, we should be making it easier. This bill would take a huge burden off small businesses like hers and go a long way to leveling the playing field.

It also makes a lot of sense to enable associations to offer policies at group rates to help smaller companies gain some leverage. Whatever we can do to ease the burden for small business and make it easier for them to provide affordable healthcare to their employees is good business for the state!

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Kate Emery
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