

March 22, 2012

To: Representative Livvy Floren and members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary

As Director of Health and Social Services for the City of Stamford, I am asking for your support to pass HB 5506; An Act Concerning Good Samaritan Practices.

I support the proposed changes in the language of the Good Samaritan Law to properly reflect that the American Red Cross and the American Heart Association published guidelines relating to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training.

Each year 785,000 Americans suffer from a heart attack. Nearly 300,000 of these victims will suffer sudden cardiac arrest at the time of their heart attack outside a hospital setting and only about five percent of cardiac arrest victims will survive. Early intervention is paramount to increase the chance of survival and the Good Samaritan Law encourages trained individuals to administer CPR. The changes being proposed will ensure that trained individuals are protected.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Fountain, MPH  
Director of Health & Social Services  
City of Stamford