

Labor and Public Employees Committee  
Room 3800 , Legislative Office Building  
Hartford,CT 06106  
March 19, 2012

**SUBJECT: H.B. 5433 AN ACT CREATING A PROCEDURE FOR PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS TO COLLECTIVELY BARGAIN WITH THE STATE**

The Executive Board of the CT Alliance for Retired Americans supports raised H.B. 5433. At last year's legislative session, we both endorsed and testified at the Human Services committee hearing relative to creating a procedure for Personal Care Attendants to begin to collectively bargain.

At last year's legislative session, we gave testimony in support of such an initiative and were impressed with the testimony of current Personal Care Attendants who have not had a salary increase in at least five years and do not have crucial benefits like sick days and vacation days. We were pleased to see that Governor Malloy ,through Executive Order #10 ,has established a process whereby PCAs can collectively bargain if they vote to do so.

No job is more important than caring for a human being in need and people who hire PCAs should have the peace of mind knowing that the person in their employ sees his/her job as a rewarding career providing a living wage, good benefits and an opportunity to make a better life for themselves.

We ask the Labor and Public Employees Committee to favorably support this crucial Bill.

*Calvin Bunnell*  
*President*