

Bonhomme, Penny

From: Bianchi, Ronald [rbianchi@stvincents.org]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 2:07 PM
To: PHC Testimony
Subject: SB 275

Dear members of the Public Health Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the 3,000 employees of St Vincent's Medical Center. This testimony is in support of SB , 275 an Act Concerning Workplace Violence and Reporting .

Much of what is included in SB 275 mirrors the language of SB 970 which was passed in the previous Legislative Session. While this was a very helpful and positive bill, it created unintended confusion regarding when it was appropriate to contact law enforcement officers to the hospital. The need for more clarity is related to the risk of confusion and uneven implementation throughout the state.

This is an important issue to address because we are all aware of the increasing violence that is becoming far too commonplace in hospitals within Connecticut. Recent shootings, hitting and biting of care givers is creating a great deal of insecurity throughout the health industry. By not specifying when to call for police assistance creates opportunities for more serious assaults. I care about the 3,000 employees at St Vincent's and want to protect them as much as I can. Clarifying the standard for police response will help us do that. By clarifying the standard we will have more clarity and will reduce the potential for more hard to our workers.

It has been recommended by the Connecticut Hospital Associations that a mandatory call to the police will occur is incidents causing death, loss of consciousness, choking of a person's such that air or blood is cut off., any injury that requires medical attention(beyond first aid), as well as any verbal threat of inflicting any of those injuries or harms when a healthcare employer reasonable believes a threat is real, immediate, and that the aggressor is capable of carrying it out.

Many thanks for your consideration of our position on this bill

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

This email message and any accompanying data or files is confidential and may contain privileged information intended only for the named recipient(s). If you are not the intended recipient(s), you are hereby notified that the dissemination, distribution, and or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you receive this message in error, or are not the named recipient (s), please notify the sender at the email address above, delete this email from your computer, and destroy any copies in any form immediately. Receipt by anyone other than the named recipient(s) is not a waiver of any attorney-client, work product, or other applicable privilege.