



*Niantic Acupuncture & Family Wellness*  
*Margaret Barili, LAc, RN, Dipl.Ac*  
*Acupuncturist Herbalist*

## **PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY LETTER**

Monday, March 5, 2012

### **RSB 276 – An Act Concerning Licensing Requirements for Acupuncturists**

#### **Testimony of Margaret C. Barili, RN, LAc, Dipl.Ac Public Health Committee Public Hearing March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, and Members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Margaret Barili. I am a Registered Nurse, Nationally Certified, and Licensed Acupuncturist in the State of Connecticut. I am a small business owner of a private practice of Acupuncture and family holistic health care in Niantic, CT called Niantic Acupuncture and Family Wellness. I also live in Niantic where I serve my community as well as clients coming from a larger portion of South East, Northern Coastal, and central Connecticut. I have been practicing in Connecticut for a little over 2 years having recently relocated from the Bay Area of California where I also held a private Oriental Medicine practice and simultaneously worked as a Critical Care and Emergency RN at El Camino Hospital, also in the Bay area. I moved to Connecticut to be closer to family, marry a Connecticut resident, and to follow my goal and aspiration to live and practice my medicine in same town.

I am grateful to the committee for raising SB 276 and would like to encourage your approval of this bill which contains some rather clear and simple updates to the language. The revisions are being recommended by the CSAOM who is working on these changes with the DPH and are intended to bring the requirements for licensing of Acupuncturists to the level that is required by the NCCAOM, National Committee for Certification in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. There is proposed language, as well, to require that CT licensed Acupuncturists retain their National Certification and/or meet the same requirements for recertification in profession development and continuing education. Having these requirements clearly spelled out in our law is something that provides assurance to our patients, consumers and other health professionals that licensed Acupuncturists are specialized, credible, well educated, certified health professionals.

Currently in my practice in Niantic, I see patients of all ages who walk through my door either via their own decision, or who are referred to me by local MD's who believe that we can work together integratively to provide effective care and healing for our mutual clients. I have seen some of my clients experience significant pain relief creating a reduced dependency on narcotics, analgesics and NSAIDS, especially when those drugs in their higher quantities were becoming a cause for health concern. I have seen many of my clients find relief of emotional instability, better diabetic blood sugar control, lessening or disappearance of troublesome symptoms of stress, menopause, gastrointestinal disorders or frequent acute illnesses such coughs, colds, and sinus infections. This list and studies to support all of this and more is extensive.

As a Masters degreed, Nationally Certified Acupuncturist, I am able to help create these successful outcomes due to my ability to assess, diagnose and treat which comes from my extensive 4-5 year post graduate training consisting of greater than 3000 hours of didactic courses and clinical internships.

Again, thank you so very much for your consideration of the updates proposed in this bill by the CSAOM to clearly state and update our standards for our profession.

Sincerely,

Margaret C. Barili RN, LAc, Dipl.Ac

CC: Senator Stillman

Representative Jutilla