

Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians

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Statement in Opposition to Raised Bill 414 – An Act Concerning Advanced Practice Registered Nurses’ Certification or Signature

and

Raised Bill 371 – An Act Concerning the Administration of Injectable Vaccines to Adults in Pharmacies

Public Health Committee

March 7, 2012

The Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians opposes and respectfully urges this committee to oppose Raised Bill 414 –An Act Concerning Advanced Practice Registered Nurses’ Certification or Signature and Raised Bill 371 – An Act Concerning the Administration of Injectable Vaccine to Adults in Pharmacies.

Raised Bill 414 would allow an advanced practice registered nurse to sign, certify or give an authorization where a physician is allowed or required to do so. Raised Bill 371 would, under certain circumstances, allow pharmacists to administer to adults vaccines that are listed on the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's adult immunization schedule. Both represent an expansion of the scope of practice of health care professionals.

Our main objection to both bills is that they attempt to circumvent the process that this committee put in place for determining scope of practice issues. Public Act 11-209 – An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health’s Oversight Responsibilities Relating to Scope of Practice Determinations for Health Care Professions, establishes a

formal process for the submission and review of requests from health care professions seeking to revise their existing scope of practice or to establish a new scope of practice. Under the act, the scope of practice review committee is responsible for reviewing and evaluating the scope of practice requests and providing written assessments to the Public Health Committee, including any legislative recommendations.

Both Raised Bill 414 and Raised Bill 371 are about the expansion of the scope of practice for health care professionals. However, despite this, there is no evidence that the process set forth in Public Act 11-209 was followed here. It is our belief that this process results in outcomes which best reflect the concerns of all parties involved.

We strongly urge this committee to oppose both bills.

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