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Raised Bill 177
Public Hearing: 2-28-12

TO: MEMBERS OF THE AGING COMMITTEE
FROM: CONNECTICUT TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (CTLA)
DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2012

RE: **SUPPORT FOR RAISED BILL 177, AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY OF NURSING HOME OWNERS FOR NEGLIGENCE AND ABUSE OF NURSING HOME RESIDENTS.**

The CTLA **strongly supports raised bill 177**, and respectfully contends that it should be passed.

The CTLA agrees that the currently existing criminal and civil penalties for resident abuse by nursing home employees should be prominently noticed to owners and operators of nursing homes.

However, the notice given and fines and penalties handed out for abuse may deter that abuse on a systemic level, but it is not likely to make individual residents harmed through that abuse whole again.

While the CTLA feels strongly that owners of nursing homes should be given this notice, more is needed. In addition, nursing home owners and operators should prove they have the financial ability to cover instances of malpractice. This could be accomplished by mandating that nursing home owners and operators carry a sufficient amount of malpractice insurance to compensate residents injured through the negligence of their employees.

WE URGE PASSAGE OF RAISED BILL 177. Thank you.