



2/15/13

Appropriations Committee
Connecticut General Assembly

Dear Committee Members:

As a volunteer member of the legislative Commission on Aging, I am writing to you at this time to request your support for the continuation of the Commission as it continues its vital and important work. The Commission, as you know, provides the Legislature with important information regarding programs crucial to the lives of older adults in Connecticut. The Commission continues to advocate for older citizens by providing crucial legislative information, coordinating data gathering processes and helping draft policy that all have served to improve the daily lives of older adults. One well recognized example of this is the impact the Commission has had on The Money Follows the Person program.

As we all begin to experience the dramatic aging of the population nationally and in Connecticut, in particular, the need for the Commission and its professional staff has never been more crucial. It would be demographic shortsightedness not to support the efforts of the Commission. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, "Never before has so much been owed by so many to so few". Clearly, this is a sentiment that I am sure older citizens and legislators can understand. Finally, please realize that the efforts of the Commission and its professional staff, in particular, impact all of us whether directly or by effecting a friend or relative as we all get older.

I submit this information as testimony before the Appropriations Committee as it deliberates the Commission on Aging and its important work.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard J. Kerins'.

Gerard J. Kerins, MD, FACP
Associate Chief of Geriatrics
Yale-New Haven Hospital
Saint Raphael Campus

Associate Clinical Profession
Yale University School of Medicine

Saint Raphael Campus
1450 Chapel Street
New Haven, CT 06511