

TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
IN SUPPORT OF HB 5460 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MODEL PLAN FOR
EMERGING BIOSCIENCE AND PHARMACEUTICAL BUSINESSES IN
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

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Mary Elaine Kelly
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Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone, and members of the Commerce Committee, I am Mary Elaine Kelly and I am here to testify in support of HB 5460 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MODEL PLAN FOR EMERGING BIOSCIENCE AND PHARMACEUTICAL BUSINESSES IN SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT.

My name is Mary Elaine Kelly and I am a Pfizer retiree who, prior to retirement, was a Senior Research Analyst in Analytical Research and Development Department. I have approximately 42 years experience in the Chemistry and Biochemistry at various universities including Case Western Reserve, University of Rochester, University of Pittsburgh and North Carolina State University.

South Eastern Connecticut is the perfect place to establish this model plan to help and nurture bioscience and pharmaceutical businesses. We have available facilities at Avery Point and Pfizer that would need minimal if any renovations. We have a pool of highly skilled and motivated scientists who have left Pfizer, want to stay in the area and want to start their own businesses. In addition, we have enthusiastic citizens and local governments who would support a facility and its people.

To see if this model would really work, just interview some of the former Pfizer scientists who are already at Avery Point and who in a small way are already doing just what the plan is trying to establish on a larger scale. I have worked with many of these scientists, continue to talk with them and can assure you that if they were given the opportunity, they would jump at the chance to participate in this venture.

Although I am using Pfizer Scientists as a group that would take advantage of the plan, I believe, however, that if selling of the available physical resources were pursued aggressively with minimal cost, such as advertising in scientific journals, on-line, having booths or advertising at scientific meetings, etc., you would have many more individuals and companies wanting to participate.

In addition, Southeastern CT is currently at a low point regarding unemployment and growth is less than 0.5%, so you would not only stop the negative flow of people leaving the area, you would have an influx of people wanting to move here which would create a better economic environment for the area.

So much is already in place, motivated scientists, facilities, and an enthusiastic local citizens and governments, it would be a win-win situation. I request, no, implore that you support this bill and invest in Southeastern CT.

Sincerely,
Mary Elaine Kelly