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State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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General Law Committee Public Hearing Friday, February 25, 2013 Testimony In Support of,

HB 5300, An Act Concerning Notice To The Department Of Consumer Protection Of Alcohol-Related Incidents Involving Individuals Under the Age Of Twenty-One.

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Doyle, Representative Baram and Ranking Members Senator Witokos and Representative Carter and members of the General Law Committee. My name is Melissa Ziobron and I am proud to represent the 34th District, which encompasses the towns of East Hampton, East Haddam and part of Colchester. I am testifying in support HB 5300 that I have proposed

Thank you for bringing the proposed bill forward for a public hearing.

This issue was brought to me by a constituent in East Hampton, one of the towns I represent in the 34th district. His grandson was served alcohol at a since defunct restaurant and after leaving the facility he was served in, was involved in a fatal crash.

My predecessor, Representative Gail Hamm brought forth a similar bill in 2011 at his request, as well. In doing my research this session I learned that there was some resistance specifically in the way it was originally drafted. After meeting with the local former Chief of Police, I stripped the offending language and submitted what is before you today.

In addition to the proposed language, since I submitted the proposal—I have done some additional fact finding and would like to amend the language of this proposal to include “required notice of all fatalities or serious injury, regardless of age”. While I was assured that this is part of the process of normal police practice, it is not mandated—which this proposal looks to accomplish.

Lastly, in speaking with the Department of Consumer Protection, they have assured me that this would not create an undue burden for their agency.

Thank you for your time,
Melissa Ziobron