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February 26, 2013

To: Committee on Labor and Public Employees

From: Sharon Massafra, Franchise Owner, Home Instead Senior Care – Trumbull and Sandy Hook, CT

Re: Testimony on Raised Bill No. 6432 – AN ACT CONCERNING HOMEMAKER SERVICES AND HOMEMAKER COMPANION AGENCIES.

My name is Sharon Massafra and I am franchise owner of Home instead Senior Care #307 in Trumbull and Sandy Hook, Connecticut. My non-medical home care agency is an employment-based agency providing homemaker, companion and personal care services to seniors.

Please accept this testimony regarding Raised Bill No. 6432. We support the proposed legislation from the CT DOL designed to eradicate registry-based misclassification of employees.

Misclassification of workers has been a serious problem for years. Caregivers who gain non-medical home care work through registries have been classified as independent contractors when in fact they should be classified as employees. These caregivers are cheated out of the American rights of workers. All workers deserve the protection of unemployment, workers' compensation and employee-based wages. Misclassification also puts consumers at risk of liability for caregiver injuries and payment of employment-based taxes.

I respectfully request this committee to vote favorably for Raised Bill No. 6432 and I will be happy to continue to work with DOL and this committee to make this bill move forward.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Massafra".

Sharon Massafra