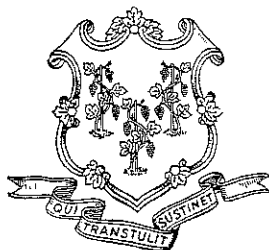


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State of Connecticut  
SENATE

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Aging Committee  
Regulations Review Committee

*Vice Chair*

Public Safety & Security Committee

*Member*

Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee

February 20, 2013

Good morning Chairwomen Gerratana and Johnson and the members of the Public Health Committee. I am here to give testimony on Proposed S.B. No. 363 An Act Establishing An Obese Patients' Bill Of Rights. This bill is one which is very near and dear to my heart. Last year I loss a very close person to me who was like a son. The young man I am speaking of is Daniel Martinez. Daniel was a young man who had so much potential but unfortunately because of his battle with obesity he was not able to live the long life he so deserved to live.

We live in a nation where we are becoming more and more obese as the months go by. As this epidemic continues our hospitals are going to be forced to provide services to a population of our constituents who might find it difficult to get the medical attention they need. What I would like to see happen with this bill is that a standard of care be developed by our hospitals to ensure they can provide the medical attention these individuals deserve. If this were in place who knows if Daniel would be alive today. If one hospital does not have the equipment necessary to treat someone who is obese then the hospital that does she be able to take the patient and provide the necessary treatment. I am not here to lay blame on any hospital; on the contrary I want to make sure that medical attention is provided for all who seek it. I ask this committee to set up an obese person's Bill of Rights which will ensure access to medical attention and services from our hospitals. In the case one hospital does not have the resources then they can be transferred to a place which does have the resources.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Andres Ayala