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ASSOCIATION  
of NONPROFITS

...to serve, strengthen  
and support Connecticut's  
nonprofit community.

Testimony Before the Public Health Committee:

In SUPPORT of: [SB No. 874](#): 'AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES' STATUTES', to make a technical change to the statute establishing the Camp Harkness Advisory Committee, to change term limits and appointments to the Birth-to-Three Interagency Coordinating Council, and to establish the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council.

Presented By:

Julia Wilcox, Senior Public Policy Specialist, Connecticut Association of Nonprofits

Public Hearing Date: February 27, 2013

Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee: I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony. My name is Julia Wilcox, Senior Public Policy Specialist for the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits (CT Nonprofits.) CT Nonprofits is a membership organization that represents more than 525 mission-based, nonprofit agencies. Approximately 300 of our member organizations contract with state government for a variety of human and social services. The following testimony is presented on behalf of the Developmental Disabilities Division of Providers who contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS.)

CT Nonprofits stands in support of [SB No. 874](#) . 'AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES' STATUTES', to make a technical change to the statute establishing the Camp Harkness Advisory Committee, to change term limits and appointments to the Birth-to-Three Interagency Coordinating Council, and to establish the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council.

We applaud Commissioner Macy and his Administration for proposing this legislation, and express our gratitude to members of the Public Health Committee for Raising the Bill. The proposed technical revisions to the statute as outlined above in the statement of purpose, support the essence of Commissioner Macy's vision for an extremely inclusionary approach to service delivery. The Nonprofit Provider Community works closely with the Department and all stakeholders, to develop and support a system of services that is extremely person-centered and. Development of the proposed Advisory Committee, Coordinating Council and Advisory Council, would serve to enhance opportunities for increased, ongoing collaboration among an increasingly broad group of stakeholders.

In closing, CT Nonprofits supports the Committee and the Department of Developmental Services, in their efforts to continually improve upon services and opportunities for the individuals with disabilities and families, supported by the Nonprofit Provider Network, and served by the Department of Developmental Services.

I thank you for your time and consideration of these critically important issues. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, with questions, or for additional information:

**Julia Wilcox, Senior Public Policy Specialist**  
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*For Your Information – Please note the following summary of separate Testimony Submitted 2.27.13, Public Health Committee regarding additional, proposed legislation:*

In SUPPORT of the following legislation:

(Proposed by the Department of Developmental Services & Raised by the Public Health Committee):

[SB No. 874](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC HEALTH. 'AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES' STATUTES', to make a technical change to the statute establishing the Camp Harkness Advisory Committee, to change term limits and appointments to the Birth-to-Three Interagency Coordinating Council, and to establish the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council.

[HB No. 6388](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC HEALTH. 'AN ACT CONCERNING INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES', to replace the terms "intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded" and "residential facility for the mentally retarded" with "intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities" and "residential facility for persons with intellectual disability", respectively, in accordance with the federal terminology.

In OPPOSITION to the following, proposed legislation:

Proposed [SB No. 129](#) 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE HARTFORD REGIONAL CENTER OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES,' to prevent the closure of the Hartford regional center group home located in Newington.

Proposed [HB No. 6005](#) 'AN ACT CONCERNING A MORATORIUM ON THE CLOSURE OF GROUP HOMES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES,' to prevent the disruption of current, long-term group home clients.

I thank you for your time and consideration of these critically important issues. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, with questions, or for additional information:

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