

Proposed S.B. No. 115

Hello,

My name is Jon Peterson. I live at 2819 Main Street Rocky Hill, CT. Occupants of our household include myself (33yrs old), my wife Amber (32yrs old), my son Josiah(5yrs old), Abigail(4yrs old), Emma(4mos old) and on weekends my daughter and my wife's step-daughter Aleksa(10yrs old). I am writing in regards to the bill listed above and I will be concentrating on the facility set to open at 60 West St. Rocky Hill, CT.

This facility at 60 West St. Is about 30-40 yards from my back door. I can see inside the buildings windows. The windows in the back of the facility overlook my entire backyard. We bought our house the last week of August with absolutely no idea that this facility would be opening as a nursing home for inmates. We were told it was vacant, old and would be knocked down. Needless to say, my children haven't even had a chance to really enjoy having their own backyard and at this point, the way things look, they never will. I can write on and on about how messed up this situation is but, I am going to keep this short and to the point. This is a major public health issue locally and potentially statewide in the future if the governor has his way. We need to look at this proposed facility not only in the present but also in the future. First off, I don't even understand how a public health license can be issued when its widely known that in order to

receive this license any business or facility such as this has to pass local zoning which the governor and icare know would never happen. They are attempting to pull the wool over EVERYONES eyes while letting us all know that they are pulling the wool over our eyes. So, it should end at that. If you can't pass local zoning you can't have your license. Somehow, it isn't working the normal every other establishment way. So, here is my second argument. I listed above I have 3 full time very young children and one 10 year old child who stays with us on the weekend. They are the second reason why there is no way this should open. Not one sane human being would approve of having any type of inmate living and breathing within 30-40 yards of infants and children. No matter what physical condition these inmates, parolees or psychiatric patients are in should not matter as its just basic common sense that they do not deserve to be so close to children who have

done nothing wrong and should be enjoying their childhood. These men have committed crimes that were deemed serious enough to be imprisoned for a very long time and in some cases, for life. So, approving a license for this facility would say to me that my children are sacrificial. How are they sacrificial you may ask because these inmates and such are incapacitated and can't even move? Well, maybe the first wave of inmates very well may be incapacitated but let it be known that there is no way that the State of Connecticut has 50-100 to possibly a maximum of 500 inmates who are clinging for life in a vegetative state. If you do some research into the state prisons you will definitely come up short on inmates who would fully qualify for the condition the state is proposing these inmates are in. There's no way the cycle of vegetative inmates will continue purely, thus over time, in order to keep this facility up and running and the \$5.5 million coming in

the state and icare will no doubt compromise their intial promise to us of this facility housing only inmates and patients who couldn't hurt a fly. It's simple common sense that's used in every other case in country except on this one we are playing dumb and saying, "Oh don't project into the future". Why not?? Wise people always project and count the cost when making decisions.

The cost is too high on this facility. Our state just lost 26 beautiful people on December 14, 2012. This doesn't have to be like that. We can stop this before it starts. I've watched my cousins family mourn the loss of one of their family members, Victoria Soto, who died a completely senseless death. She did nothing to deserve that. You have a chance to stop a senseless act from happening to our children here in Rocky Hill. If this facility opens the governor will open more facilities like this throughout the state and countless young children will be prisoner in their own homes. That's what we feel like now. The prisoners get some freedom and we become incarcerated in our own home. Another aspect I want to mention quickly is the security or lack thereof that will be provided at the facility will not be professional. If they open this place there should at least be State correctional officers to properly secure the building. Also, who knows what type of people will be visiting these inmates further endangering our community. Criminals usually keep familiar company and if that's the case, our house, our children and our belongings will be further compromised.

My faith is very weak these days and something tells me I will turn on the news or perhaps even physically see these inmates being bused in. There are times that no matter what anyone says or thinks and no matter how much you are pressured to go in one direction, you absolutely have to make the RIGHT decision. This is that case. Stopping these types of medical parole inmate nursing homes in Connecticut should be a no brainer and is paramount to the safety of many families now and in the future. Please stop another avenue for heartache in our State. The inmates shouldn't mind since they aren't even aware, right?

Sincerely and Desperately,
Jon Peterson on behalf of his family and neighbors

Help us please!

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