March 4, 2014

Testimony of Matthew V. Barrett, Executive Vice President of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities (CAHCF), Inc. in support of H.B. No. 5300 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOME NOTIFICATIONS

Good morning Senator Ayala, Representative Serra and to the members Committee on Aging. My name is Matthew V. Barrett, Executive Vice President of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities (CAHCF), our state's one hundred and sixty-seven (167) member trade association and advocacy organization of skilled nursing facilities and rehabilitation centers. Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of S.B. No. 5300 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOME NOTIFICATIONS.

The bill provides a reasonable notice to new applicants for a nursing home license, especially addressed to potential out-of-state providers, emphasizing the value that Connecticut places on providing high quality nursing home care. The bill's notice provisions also put emphasis on the potential for liability when care is provided below the standard of care.

Our association appreciates the opportunity provided by the Aging Committee to work with the legislation's proponents, namely the state long term care ombudsman and the nursing home resident councils, and with Leading Age Connecticut, on this legislation over the last several years. This year's bill represents the consensus of the parties on the statutory language that should be adopted and we urge the committee to pass the bill this year.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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