



Connecticut Department of Public Health

Testimony Presented Before the General Law Committee

March 11, 2014

**Commissioner Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA
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**Senate Bill 300: An Act Concerning Persons Who Decontaminate Reusable Medical
Instruments or Devices**

The Department of Public Health opposes Senate Bill 300 and would like to offer the following comments for your consideration.

This bill would provide statutory recognition for technicians who decontaminate medical instruments. It also establishes mandatory certification and continuing education (CE) requirements for these technicians. Hospitals and outpatient surgical centers would be authorized to waive or approve extension of the time for the completion of CE courses.

The Department would not be able to perform the functions outlined in the bill within existing resources. While the Department would be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this bill, DPH has no authority to impose sanctions on these technicians and would need to develop regulations for compliance and enforcement. Additionally, the bill proposes that the Commissioner may recognize a professional organization as a certifying body for these technicians. This deeming authority would require the development of standards and criteria for certification.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.