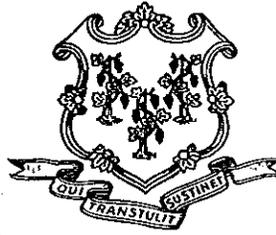


**SENATOR MARTIN M. LOONEY**  
**MAJORITY LEADER**  
—  
Eleventh District  
*New Haven, Hamden & North Haven*



**State of Connecticut**  
**SENATE**

State Capitol  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591  
132 Fort Hale Road  
New Haven, Connecticut 06512  
Home: 203-468-8829  
Capitol: 860-240-8600  
Toll-free: 1-800-842-1420  
[www.SenatorLooney.cga.ct.gov](http://www.SenatorLooney.cga.ct.gov)

February 18, 2014

Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. I am here to testify in support of S.B. 11 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE, S.B. 15 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, S.B. 6 AN ACT CONCERNING DISCLOSURES FOR UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES, S.B. 9 AN ACT REQUIRING CERTAIN DISCLOSURES FOR LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE POLICIES, and S.B. 13 AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CERTAIN LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE POLICY RATE INCREASE REQUESTS.

SB 11 would allow the Health Insurance Exchange to negotiate prices with the insurance carriers that sell products on Access Health CT. I believe that this legislation could lead to lower prices for consumers in our state. Under this bill, the Department of Insurance would retain its current authority to approve or reject the insurers' rates. This approval or rejection is currently done by assessing whether or not the rates are actuarially sound; the department does not then negotiate rates with the insurers. Allowing the Exchange to negotiate prices while requiring the

Insurance Department to reject rates that are not actuarially sound would protect both consumers and insurers. This legislation would create sound public policy in the public interest.

SB 6 would require insurers to include a disclosure for universal life insurance policies about the possibility of future increases in the cost of insurance payments. SB 9 would require that a full and fair written disclosure for Long Term Care policies of the benefits and limitations of the policy (including possible rate increases) be given to the consumer. These two bills would offer much needed protection for consumers of these products. In addition, SB 13 would provide a comment period for Long Term Care policies that is similar to that already offered for health insurance policies. Disclosure and the opportunity for public comment are important methods of empowering consumers.

Thank you for raising these important bills to protect Connecticut's citizens.