

David Basque
HB 438

The Honorable Terry Gerratana, Senate Chair
The Honorable Susan Johnson, House Chair
Public Health Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106

March 19, 2014

Dear Chairwoman Gerratana, Chairwoman Johnson, and members of the committee,

My name is David Basque, I live in Windsor Locks, and I support S.B. 438 because it will make a lifesaving difference when someone suffers a stroke in our community.

I am a stroke survivor. The concepts raised in this bill will effect future stroke patients and increase the chances a patient will live through a stroke. In my case, it was just luck that I was brought to a Certified Stroke Ctr., Hartford Hospital.

I realized now that had I been brought to what is now mandated the closest available emergency room I could have been treated differently at a non-certified emergency room. The type of stroke I had was a brain bleed which is not the same as an ischemic stroke where the protocol is to use clot busting drugs, the result of being treated with clot busting drugs would have probably killed me.

I am grateful that the well-trained staff at Hartford Hospital treated me and saved my life.

This bill would mandate first responders to bring stroke patients to a certified stroke center. Luck should not be a factor in receiving the appropriate stroke care. I hope you will vote in support of this bill.

Thank you

Sincerely,
David Basque
297 South Center St.
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Peace
Dave