the Y
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

John L. Cattelan
Executive Director, Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs
H.B. 5149 – AN ACT CONCERNING
CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION CERTIFICATION
Public Safety and Security Committee
February 18, 2013

Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

My name is John Cattelan and I am here today on behalf of the Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs. The Alliance represents 22 YMCAs across the state of Connecticut.

I'm here today to urge the members of this committee to support H.B. 5149 – An Act Concerning Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification.

Currently, the state of Connecticut doesn't recognize American Health and Safety Institute (ASHI) CPR standards. Connecticut and Hawaii are the only two states that do not recognize these criteria.

Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs
241 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103
P 860 216 1474 F 860 522 1314

Currently, potential Y lifeguards attend the ASHI classes for lifeguard certification, but then have to attend a class with a different organization to receive their CPR certification. In order to be certified as a lifeguard in Connecticut you must have lifeguard and CPR certification. That is why we support this bill and the recognition of the ASHI CPR classes.

There are also no differences in the standards offered in the CPR classes offered by ASHI, and other organizations that are recognized by state statute.

Here are some of the organizations that also use ASHI CPR standards –

- United States Coast Guard
- U.S. Veterans Administration
- Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Air Force
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Army National Guard
- U.S. Marshals Service
- Administration Office of the U.S. Courts
- U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Internal Revenue Service

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions members of the Committee may have.