

From: Lisa Burch <dlsk@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 9:07 PM
To: HSTestimony
Subject: 408 An Act Concerning Mental Health Options For Adult Medicaid Recipients

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 32 years of experience in family service and private clinical practice, I strongly implore the committee handling Bill 408 - An Act Concerning Mental Health Options For Adult Medicaid Recipients to include LCSWs in your bill. Please consider that more than 2/3 of the mental health services in Connecticut are provided by clinical social workers and yet at the present time those of us typically with the most experience are often practicing privately and can not provide services to those on Medicaid. With the influx of adults joining Medicaid under "ObamaCare" a significant larger number of providers will be required to provide service. Social workers have a history of working with lower income families and a training that is particularly sensitive to environmental and psychosocial factors impacting individuals and families. It's also in the Husky C & D recipients' best interest to have a choice of providers thus expanding their access to care. Thank you for considering these factors carefully as you craft this final bill.

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