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**Human Services Committee Public Hearing
Thursday, January 29, 2015
Testimony in Support of
H.B.5358 An Act Establishing a Bill of Rights for Residents of Continuing-
Care Retirement Communities.**

Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B.5358 *An Act Establishing a Bill of Rights for Residents of Continuing-Care Retirement Communities.*

My name is Georgia Erickson and I am President of the Connecticut Continuing Care Retirement Association, known as ConnCCRA. The facilities that are included in the Association are called Continuing Care Retirement Communities or CCRCs. The Department of Social Services has regulatory oversight over CCRCs operating in Connecticut.

To be a CCRC the facility must offer independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing care. Bill H.B. 5358, we are proposing has to do only with independent living, as the other areas already have Bills of Rights.

People choosing to move into independent living at a CCRC often put their life savings into it with the understanding that the CCRC will be a wise steward of their funds. Current laws and regulations do not cover unsafe gaps with respect to financial disclosure. Residents have become increasingly concerned about issues of financial fairness and disclosure.

This led ConnCCRA to draft the proposed Bill being presented today, as Bill H.B. 5358, knowing that other states such as New Jersey and California already have them.

I urge you to consider this Bill carefully and seriously knowing that it affects so many of your constituents who have chosen to live their senior years in a CCRC with the understanding that it will be a safe and secure environment.

They shouldn't have to worry about the financial future of the facility. This Bill, if passed, will give all residents of a CCRC in Connecticut greater peace of mind.

Thank you, Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie and Committee members for the opportunity to present testimony.