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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 Ruth Holland Walsh. I have served a total of 5 years as both President and Immediate Past President of the National Continuing Care Residents Association, headquartered in Tallahassee, Florida.

Chances are, most of you have not ever thought about the process of aging as an industry, but that is precisely what it has become, and a burgeoning one at that. There are over eleven hundred CCRA's in this country. Seventeen of them are in Connecticut.

Bill H.B.5358 addresses a population - the over 6000 Independent residents in Connecticut - who have placed their faith-their trust-and more importantly-their finances; - the savings of a lifetime -in the hands of others. Faith is flimsy protection for a lifetime of savings.

This bill is the first step in seeing that residents have rights and protections supported by the law of the land.

We urge you to make H.B.5358 your priority, to take it personally... to think of your parents, and eventually even think of your own welfare.

Every single one of us is aging, from the moment that we draw our first breath until the last. We ask that you realize the importance of your action as concerns this proposed legislation - You are going to want to know you helped put this protection in place.

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