



377 Research Parkway, Suite 2-D  
Meriden, CT 06450-7160  
203-238-1207

TESTIMONY RE: Raised Bill No. 6805 AN ACT CONCERNING THE BIRTH-TO-THREE  
PROGRAM AND YEARLY HEARING TESTS

COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN  
FEBURARY 24, 2015

Good day Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Urban and esteemed members of the Children's Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA) related to Proposed Bill No. 6805 AN ACT CONCERNING BIRTH-TO-THREE PROGRAM AND YEARLY HEARING TESTS.

I am Kimberly Clear Sandor, MSN, RN, FNP and current Executive Director of the Connecticut Nurses' Association and have extensive background in working to support the health of children and families to support lifelong success and learning. I speak in support of the concepts shared in this bill.

The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) at Utah State University shares that most children with hearing loss "who are not identified at birth will not receive another objective screening until they enter school." Hearing loss can occur at any time in a child's life. Primary Care Providers in medical homes may not have access to the equipment to provide objective screenings to infants and toddlers.

Therefore we urge the committee to acknowledge the importance of early screening, identification, and intervention to position children for a better chance at successful outcomes in school and commit to ensuring access to objective early screening for at risk populations.

Thank you.

Kimberly Clear Sandor, MSN, RN, FNP  
Executive Director, CT Nurses' Association