



## TOWN OF HARWINTON

HARWINTON, CONNECTICUT 06791

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**Michael R. Criss  
First Selectman  
Town of Harwinton  
Before the Public Health Committee  
March 4, 2015**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed **HB-5101-An Act Requirements for Certain Types of Pools.**

As First Selectman of Harwinton, I have been working to improve the efficiency of our local government and be more responsive to our residents and businesses. Like many towns, we are struggling to find ways to help local business and help reduce their operating costs in order to have a thriving commercial base for our community and continue to employ local residents.

Unfortunately, efforts to reduce costs are often undermined by State or Local regulations that tie a business' hands when trying to grow their business in our State and Community. We need more flexibility in addressing these issues, particularly given the ongoing budgetary issues facing the town, state and business owners.

I therefore **support HB-5101** which will allow small Business owners of wellness centers, such as The Healing trail in Harwinton, to permit under an appropriate category, rather than forcing them to permit under a category which does not match the application and prohibits business growth in our State and Town. **HB-5101** allows for flexibility for the department and the applicant to work together to help grow Connecticut's business base.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I appreciate that this committee is looking for ways to address the need to establish more specific categories for applicants.

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