

February 20, 2015

RE: HB 5525

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An Act Concerning Cytomegalovirus

POSITION: Support

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Representative Gerratana, Chair Representative Ritter, and the distinguished members of the Public Health Committee,

I encourage you to support HB 5525 because I believe in the importance of cytomegalovirus (CMV) education to women and the early identification of children with disabilities.

My name is Doug Famigletti and I live my wife and three children in New Canaan, CT. My daughter Gracie Mary Famigletti was born on March 2, 2009 with cytomegalovirus (CMV).

This was my wife's second pregnancy so she was very well versed in the steps she should take to minimize risk to her unborn baby. However, until week 18 of this pregnancy, we had not heard of CMV. We were lucky that we identified CMV at week 22 as the cause of the problems Gracie was having while in utero. We were able to treat my wife with plasma to help build her immune system and Casey was on bed rest at Yale New Haven Hospital with some of the best Doctors in the world.

Gracie was born at 30 weeks and 2lbs. She had multiple issues at birth and spent 10 weeks in the NICU at Yale and Norwalk. Her disabilities since coming home have included physical (started walking at 4), respiratory (regularly needs oxygen) and nutrition (eats with a feeding tube). She is an incredible child who has an incredible will to survive and grow. In spite of her challenges she continues to get stronger and is on pace to enter kindergarten in September, only one year behind kids her age. This virus has been devastating to Gracie but my family has been very lucky to be able to support Gracie's growth with anything possible to help her overcome anything.

Had we known about CMV, there is no doubt we would have changed our behavior. Please inform all about CMV.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this important public health issue

Sincerely,  
Doug Famigletti

**Douglas M. Famigletti, CFA**

President and Chief Investment Officer

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