

February 17, 2015

RE: HB 5525 – An Act Concerning Cytomegalovirus

POSITION: Support

Dear distinguished members of the Public Health Committee; I encourage you to support HB 5525 because I believe in the importance of cytomegalovirus (CMV) education and in the early identification of children with disabilities.

My name is JoAnn Shaughnessy. I am close friends with a young couple that have a son born with the CMV virus. I know the difficulties and trials they have painstakingly dealt with since his birth 5 years ago. Logan was born profoundly deaf in one ear and has since lost complete hearing in his other ear due to this virus. Our hope would be to have CMV awareness and necessary intervention services included in all prenatal visits as well as educating all caregivers. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important public health issue

Sincerely,

JoAnn Shaughnessy