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RE: HB 5525 – 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.

Currently I am a junior at Quinnipiac University and my friend's niece was born with CMV in 2009. CMV has left her with hearing loss, feeding issues, motor delays and autism. I was so surprised to find out that 1:150 children is born with this preventable virus and that it is also often undetected. Hoping that I will one day have a family of my own, I feel it is so important for my generation to be educated on prevention.

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

Stephanie Antoinetti