

Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Rep. Matthew Ritter  
Chairman Senator Terry Gerratana  
and Members of the Public Health Committee

My name is Karen Kolenda, 1275 Post Road, Suite A-5, Fairfield CT 06824

I am licensed by the State of CT, Dept of Public Health and have been in business for 27 years.

I am the President of the Connecticut State Electrology Association and have been for the last four years and Vice President for four years prior. There are over 160 Licensed State Electrologists listed in Connecticut. We have recently learned about Bill #5625 which will be heard Monday, Feb 23rd and, if passed as worded, could have a very negative effect on all State Licensed Electrologists working in Connecticut as we use very fine steel wires called probes. Some refer to the probes as "needles," however, the probe is about as thick as a piece of hair we are treating. Electrologists treat the hair follicle and create permanent hair removal. Clients would not be able to subscribe to this service in the State of CT if we are unable to practice under the current wording of Bill #5625.

If Bill #5625 gets passed it may inadvertently eliminate the authority of electrologists to practice electrology as the use of probes and needles to destroy tissue is included in the proposed definition of surgery. Our profession does not belong in this proposed definition. We are respectfully requesting that the wording be changed to have language inserted into the Bill to remove electrolysis from the definition of surgery. We would like the Bill's sponsor to indicate, on record, that it was not introduced with the intention of limiting or curtailing any rights of electrologists in CT to perform electrolysis.

Thank you for your time and consideration and support in this matter. Please remember there are over 160, all female, State Licensed Electrologists who many are the sole bread winner in their families who would be losing their ability to work.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kolenda

State Licensed Electrologist

President of the CT State Electrology Association

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