

**Carmine Castiglione, Garden Brook Residential Care Home**

*in opposition to*

H.B. No. 6887 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF RESIDENTS IN HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS.

Public Health Committee, March 18, 2015

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is, Carmine Castiglione I am owner of Garden Brook Residential Care Home in Watertown, CT and a board member of the Connecticut Association of Residential Care Homes. I am here today to testify against House Bill 6887- AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF RESIDENTS IN HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS.

This bill would be costly to the facility and negative for the safety of staff, other residents and the resident involved. First I would like to point out, I believe there is no Residential Care Home that would attempt to discharge a client that is suitable for the home. What would be the purpose? That would be like evicting a tenant to leave an apartment empty while a landlord is paying bills to maintain it. This makes no sense.

Also, passing this bill could be costly because if you have a resident who is not suited to reside in an RCH and the discharge process takes an extensive period of time resulting in more work hours. A resident can do very serious harm to him or herself, other residents, staff members and visitors. This may force the facility to hire extra staff for possibly one on one supervision.

For example, if a resident smokes in un-designated smoking areas, and is given several attempts to correct the problem and he or she does not correct his or her inappropriate actions serious consequences such as injury or death can occur. Is it really worth it to wait for an extra lengthy discharge procedure? You can use this example for most other situations, like a person using drugs or being intoxicated in the facility in which he/she may become violent towards another resident. This bill protects no one especially the person being discharged. It is an injustice for him or her because this bill would deny and delay this individual the necessary treatment they need and deserve.

Reality is at times some residents are in need of a higher level of care, or other treatments that a Residential Care Home is not able to provide. It is necessary to be certain that residents are receiving the level and type of care needed without any unnecessary delays. Once again, I would like to state, ask yourselves, who would want to discharge a resident from their facility if the client is appropriate for this level of care? What would be the benefit? The answer is simple, there is no benefit. This bill make no sense.

I ask that you not act on HB 6887. Thank you for your time and consideration.