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Re: SB 1089

Dear Senator Gerratana (Co-Chair), Representative Ritter (Co-Chair) and
Members of the Public Health Committee:

I am a Licensed Professional Counselor in private practice and the Connecticut Counseling Association's Ethics Committee Chair. I write in my individual capacity today to join in and fully support the testimony offered by the Connecticut Counseling Association concerning SB 1089: An Act Concerning Mental Health Services. For all of the reasons set forth in the CCA testimony, I strongly urge the Public Health Committee to include Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) alongside Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists as providers of services contemplated by Section 4 of SB 1089.

As set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 20-195aa, LPCs engage in "evaluation, assessment, analysis, diagnosis and treatment of mental, behavioral or interpersonal dysfunction." Such treatment "includes but is not limited to, individual, group, marriage and family counseling..." There is no compelling reason to exclude LPCs from the provisions of SB 1089, and indeed - with more than two thousand active LPCs in the state - the legislation will be stronger for their inclusion.

Respectfully submitted,


Maurice H. Hartigan III