

**Kubeck, Diane**

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**From:** DeFrancesco, Mark <mdefrancesco@womenshealthct.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2015 3:42 PM  
**To:** INSTestimony  
**Cc:** DeFrancesco, Mark  
**Subject:** SB 411

**FTR**

**Mark S. DeFrancesco, MD**  
35 Terrell Farm Place  
Cheshire, CT 06410

February 2, 2015

Senator Joseph Crisco  
Representative Robert Megna  
Senator Joan Hartley  
Representative David Zoni  
Connecticut State Legislative Joint Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

**RE: SB 411**

Dear Senators Crisco and Hartley, and Representatives Megna and Zoni,

I have practiced ObGyn for 31 years in Waterbury, and until recently served for many years as the Chief Medical Officer of Women's Health Connecticut. Since 1994 I have been a surveyor for the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) and have been a member of its Board of Directors since 2000. In 2010, I had the privilege of serving as its President. I should point out my AAAHC leadership activities are entirely voluntary and uncompensated.

Due to my extensive experience with AAAHC, I am writing to strongly support Senate Bill 411, which would recognize the AAAHC as an accrediting organization for managed care organizations in Connecticut. The AAAHC has accredited managed care organizations nationally, and enjoys an excellent reputation in this field.

Indeed, the AAAHC is already specifically recognized in Connecticut as an accreditor in other legislation requiring accreditation for other health care organizations, such as ambulatory surgery centers or office practices performing procedures requiring certain levels of anesthesia. It has been accrediting managed care organizations in other states for many years and has extensive experience in this field.

In the distant past, before attending medical school, I served a term in the State House as a Representative from the 99th district (1973-74), so I also am very cognizant of the heavy responsibility you have in making decisions every day that will affect the lives of all of our citizens. I ask for your support then, for this important legislation.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark DeFrancesco, MD, FACOG