



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman of the Board  
Sandy Waters

Vice Chairman  
Andy Absberg

Vice Chairman  
Patrice Francois

Treasurer  
Robert Galdraon

Secretary  
Philip Leebner

Directors  
Al Badbeck  
Laney Cabrera  
Jeffrey Castle  
Chris Fortase  
Dorothy de Silva  
Tom Ellison  
Scott Fould  
Sandy Hammer  
Karin Hodgson  
Neil Leford  
Dan Kramlinger  
Christine Lavin  
John Lombardi  
Steven LeParco  
Lisa Oswald  
Shahryar Qureshi  
Steve Paletta  
Shoum Pandey  
Jon Ross-Wiley  
Brian Scamban  
Charles Spicess  
Stephen Soler  
Robert Sterling  
Alexander Todirovic  
Jvan Wahl  
Chris Zalik

JUNIOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gracie Britton  
Win Butleridge  
Doug Bookbinder  
Natalie Cox  
Ana Cipoletti  
Kelly Clarke  
John Courten  
Lou Denslow  
Lindsay Longmire  
Scott Magnuson  
Lauren Milan  
Beth Mandy  
Joseph Pshon  
Jessica Shapiro  
Katharine Wells  
John Yankovich  
Vivian Zerkov

**Edward Philipp**  
**President/CEO, YMCA of Greenwich**  
**H.B. 6784, An Act Expanding Paid Sick Leave**  
**Labor Committee**  
**March 6, 2015**

Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. My name is Edward Philipp and I am writing on behalf of the YMCA of Greenwich.

I'm writing today to raise concerns regarding H.B. 6784, An Act Expanding Paid Sick Leave. We are opposed to the elimination of Section 1. Section 31-57r(4) "any nationally chartered organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, that provides all of the following services: Recreation, child care and education," from state statute.

I have estimated that the elimination of this exemption would cost the YMCA of Greenwich approximately \$27,000 annually. This additional cost would have a negative effect on the

programs and services that we provide to the members of our community.

Last year, we provided just over \$420,000 in financial assistance to Greenwich families so they can participate in a number of the Y programs. About a third of our childcare participants and about half of our summer camp participants receive financial aid in addition to the below market rates we charge for both programs.

Our operation will not be able to absorb the additional cost of providing sick leave to our staff and we will have to lower the amount of financial aid we award to deserving families and adjust our rates so that we can make up the shortfall. In my opinion, this is not a desirable outcome.

We currently offer a number of benefits to our part-time employees. Some of these benefits are free membership, participation in the Y retirement plan, and an employee assistance program.

As a charity, the YMCA exists to strengthen our communities and every day we work with thousands of men, women and children

to ensure everyone, regardless of age, income or background – has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. These are not easy tasks to accomplish and this legislation would make it that much more difficult. Thank you.