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RE: HB 5525 – An Act Concerning Cytomegalovirus POSITION: Support

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Representative Gerratana, Chair Representative Ritter, and the distinguished members of the Public Health Committee,

I encourage you to support HB 5525 because I believe in the importance of cytomegalovirus (CMV) education to women and the early identification of children with disabilities.

My grandson, Logan, was born with congenital CMV in 2009. My daughter was a single mother living in my home, so I was with her every step of the way during her pregnancy and journey with Logan. At 22 weeks pregnant, the doctors told my daughter to terminate her pregnancy because of the effects the virus could bring. However, he was mildly affected by the virus and is an absolute joy. He has had to overcome many things. It took him much longer to walk and talk than other kids. He has had 3 separate surgeries. I gives me great pain to have to watch such a young child go through these things because my daughter was never warned of the virus. Please help us to help other women prevent this terrible virus.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this important public health issue.

Sincerely,
Jodie Tucciarone