



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE PAM STANESKI  
ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 4200  
300 CAPITOL AVENUE  
HARTFORD, CT 06106

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700  
TOLL FREE: (800) 842-1423  
Pam.Staneski@housegop.ct.gov

MEMBER  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

*Testimony by Representative Pam Staneski  
Before the Public Health Committee  
In support of House Bills 5528  
February 23, 2015*

Good morning Chairmen Gerratana and Ritter, Ranking Members Markley and Srinivasan, and members of the Public Health Committee. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity today to provide testimony in favor of HB 5528.

HB 5528, AN ACT CONCERNING CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WHO PRESCRIBE NARCOTIC DRUGS, will increase education for health care providers concerning the prescription of narcotics. Title 20 of the general statutes would be amended to require each health care provider who is authorized to prescribe narcotic drugs to complete one hour of continuing education during each license registration period on the topic of controlled substances.

The increase in emergency room visits related to over-doses of prescription pain killers has increased. According to the National Poison Data System in 2012 almost 83percent of these visits were due to abuse of a pharmaceutical product and a large number are caused by accidental exposure.

In light of this expanding epidemic, training on narcotic dispensary is the least we can do to ensure that prescribers are up-to-date on the content of the drugs they prescribe and that they have the tools to educate patients about their potential risks, proper disposal, and appropriate use of the drug.

Thank you for holding this hearing on HB 5528. I wish to express my support of the legislation and ask the committee's favorable action.

Sincerely,

Rep. Pam Staneski