



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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*Testimony by Representative Mitch Bolinsky
Before the Public Health Committee
Opposing Proposed House Bill 5625
February 23, 2015*

My thanks to the Honorable Co-Chairs, Senator Gerratana and Representative Ritter; Ranking Members Senator Markley and Representative Srinivasan; as well as the entire Public Health Committee for your consideration today of HB 5625, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF SURGERY.

Allow me to introduce Debra Sullivan, a constituent, a Board Certified Physician Assistant and a subject matter expert who I will turn to in a moment to do a far better job than I in clarifying the concerns shared by many about the legislation before us today.

As a matter of public record, I am not a physician, nor am I a medical provider. What I am is a simple State Representative and a marketing person with extensive experience in regulatory affairs and consumer insights. I am a problem solver and a voice for the underdog.

In each of my three-sessions in the House, I have assisted constituents in defending their very existence against legislation that has sought to limit their existing scope of practice or eliminate their livelihoods altogether.

Medical-Spa providers are reputable small business owners, practicing in compliance with current regulations and satisfying their patient/clientele. They serve a unique, growing market niche. One that does not struggle with Medicaid and private insurance reimbursement issues, like traditional physician's practices. Possibly because of the changing face of healthcare in the 21st-century, there are powerful forces looking to command this niche for competitive reasons that will also restrict patient access to cosmetic and therapeutic treatment options and greatly increase patient costs.

The constant assault on these providers is a story of David and Goliath. I hope you'll listen carefully to Debra's assessment of HB-5625 and other recent medical spa legislation in CT and then, let fly with your questions.

Thank you. I now present to you, Debra Sullivan...

Respectfully,

Representative Mitch Bolinsky