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I am writing as a physician formerly licensed to practice within the state of CT on behalf of the current bill to allow the practice of homeopathy by nationally board certified homeopaths. I had practiced internal medicine, pulmonary and critical care medicine in CT since completing my training at Hartford Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and the John Dempsey Hospital in 1991. I have had direct personal and professional exposure to and experience with homeopathy since 2000. I have been an attending at Hartford Hospital, John Dempsey, and St. Francis hospitals and have worked in numerous hospitals throughout the state. With regards to homeopathic medicine, I have seen firsthand the value of using homeopathic medicines for a variety of acute and chronic conditions without the serious side-effects often seen with pharmaceutical agents. As well, I have used evidence-based homeopathic medicines (potassium dichromate in homeopathic potency) in a hospital ICU setting for secretion management and serious pulmonary disease and have documented favorable outcomes. This was approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, after a European study published in a peer-reviewed medical journal (Frass M, Dielacher C, Linkesch M, et al. Influence of potassium dichromate on tracheal secretions in critically ill patients. *Chest*. 2005 Mar; 127(3):936-41) showed favorable outcomes in the management of ventilator patients who were unable to be extubated due to copious thickened secretions. Currently, there is no allopathic evidence-based medical treatment for this patient population.

I support the practice of homeopathy by board-certified homeopathic practitioners. The education, training and testing of these practitioners is rigorous and requires many years of study, supervision, case-taking and close documented follow-up of chronic cases. I am very familiar with this discipline. I would, however, hesitate to send my patients to anyone not board-certified in homeopathy and feel that this bill will allow for the safe and effective practice of this discipline if prescribed by practitioners who have completed their training and supervision and have passed the national certifying exam. As I understand it, this examination and certification includes written and oral exams as well as the submission of cases with long-term follow up and close clinical supervision.

Respectfully,

Martin T. Forrest, DO, FCCP