

**SB 157** An Act Concerning Adequate and Safe Housing for the Elderly  
and Young Persons with Disabilities  
February 23, 2016  
**Dan Gaines, Waterbury CT**

Good afternoon Senator Winfield, Representative Osten and members of the Housing Committee. My name is Dan Gaines and I oppose S.B. 157 an Act Concerning Adequate and Safe Housing for the Elderly and Young Persons with Disabilities.

In 1995, I got into elderly housing in Danbury and was there until 1998. I would not have gotten in there had not the protections under the ADA or American with Disabilities Act was not in place.

I would hate to see people coming behind me being discriminated against unconstitutionally and denies a basic human need-housing.

I would also like to point out that when I lived in elderly housing, the younger residents helped the elderly out as it was needed and vice versa. In any housing complex, there are going to be issues, and this has nothing to do with age.

Excluding a protected group from accessing safe, decent and affordable housing would just attribute to more homelessness and added discrimination. Please consider expanding housing for all people .

I thank you for your time

Sincerely,  
Daniel Gaines  
Waterbury CT