



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

**REPRESENTATIVE DOUG DUBITSKY**  
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**MEMBER**  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Human Services Committee  
Public Testimony  
March 8, 2016

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 5586  
An Act Concerning Workers' Compensation Coverage for Injuries Sustained by Personal Care Attendants  
Employed Directly by Consumers in State-Funded Programs

Good Afternoon Co-Chairs Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie; Vice Chairs Senator Slossberg, Representative McGee; Ranking Members Senator Markley, Representative Wood; and esteemed members of the Committee.

I want to thank the Human Services Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 5586 which **I cannot support in its current form**. This legislative session, I submitted a proposed bill request as follows:

That the general statutes be amended to require, as a condition to receiving services provided by a personal care attendant that receives part of their pay from a state-funded program, that the client of such attendant demonstrate proof of liability insurance, that will cover any injuries sustained by such attendant while on such client's property.

My bill concept never envisioned the expansion of the workers compensation program which has now been incorporated into the current language of HB 5586.

As I recall, a similar bill was floated and failed in years past due to the large fiscal note associated with such workers compensation expansion. I don't expect that note to be any smaller this time around. In this year of massive budget deficits and the slashing of existing funding to vital human services, I believe it would be irresponsible for the legislature to expand the workers compensation program as HB 5586 proposes.

For these reasons, **I do not support HB 5586**, and ask that the Human Services Committee take no further action on the bill.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Doug Dubitsky'.

Doug Dubitsky  
State Representative, 47<sup>th</sup> District