



**February 17, 2016**

**HB 5129, An Act Concerning the Administration of Vaccines  
by Pharmacists and Medical Assistants  
and the Listing of Certified Medical Assistants**

**Public Health Committee Hearing**

Representative Ritter, Senator Gerratana and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is David Benoit and I am a pharmacist and the Vice-President of Patient Care Services at Northeast Pharmacy Services, an organization that supports the business of pharmacy in approximately 100 Connecticut independent pharmacies. I am here to speak in support of HB 5129, *An Act Concerning the Administration of Vaccines by Pharmacists and Medical Assistants and the Listing of Certified Medical Assistants*.

Pharmacists can presently administer flu vaccine to patients eighteen years of age and older. This bill would expand access to flu vaccine in pharmacies to patients under the age of eighteen. We believe that the training pharmacists receive is appropriate and adequate for flu vaccination to patients under the age of eighteen. We believe it is good policy to expand access to vaccines. Therefore, we strongly support the passage of HB 5129.

I thank you for your time in consideration my position on this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David G. Benoit".

David G. Benoit, MHP, R.Ph.  
VP, Patient Care Services  
Northeast Pharmacy Service Corporation