

Administrative:
635 Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
860.347.6971

Locations:

CHC of Bristol
395 North Main Street
Bristol, CT 06010
860.585.5000

CHC of Clinton
114 East Main Street
Clinton, CT 06413
860.664.0787

CHC of Danbury
8 Delay Street
Danbury, CT 06810
203.797.8330

CHC of Enfield
5 North Main Street
Enfield, CT 06082
860.253.9024

CHC of Groton
481 Gold Star Highway
Groton, CT 06340
860.446.8858

CHC of Meriden
134 State Street
Meriden, CT 06450
203.237.2229

CHC of Middletown
675 Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
860.347.6971

CHC of New Britain
85 Lafayette Street
New Britain, CT 06051
860.224.3642

CHC of New London
One Shaw's Cove
New London, CT 06320
860.447.8304

CHC of Old Saybrook
263 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
860.388.4433

CHC of Waterbury
51 North Elm Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
203.574.4000

Day Street CHC
49 Day Street
Norwalk, CT 06854
203.854.9292

Franklin Street CHC
141 Franklin Street
Stamford, CT 06901
203.969.0802

www.chc1.com

Facebook/CHCInc
Twitter/@CHCConnecticut

Connecticut General Assembly - Public Health Committee
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06101

Re: HB 5350 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DPH RECOMMENDATIONS ON FLUORIDATION OF THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

Dear Senator Gerrantana, Representative Ritter, and members of the Public Health Committee:

As chief dental officer of community Health center Inc. and a citizen of CT, I am pleased to learn that the Public Health Committee has raised a bill to continue the requirement to add fluoride in public water supplies. This bill will optimize the **community water fluoridation to the level recommended by the US Department of Health and Human Services**. Please support HB 5350, An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations on Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply.

Both children and adults benefit from water fluoridation. Studies show that community water fluoridation prevents at least 25% of tooth decay in children and adults over a lifespan.

The Community Health Center has been a provider of dental care for more than 40 years in the state of CT and is a strong part of the oral health safety net in our state. Our dental providers see the tremendous effects of tooth decay firsthand. Pain, missed days from work/school, infection, loss of teeth, difficulty eating and low self-esteem have all been reported from our patients. Fluoride has not only been shown to prevent decay but also helps remineralize lesions that have already started. Since oral health effects ones overall health, it is critical we maintain fluoride in our water. **Water fluoridation is safe, effective and the best method of improving oral health in a community.**

This is the 51st year of the passage of the statute that requires optimal levels of fluoride in community water in Connecticut. To further outline the significance of this measure, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) named community water fluoridation as one of the "Ten Great Public Health Achievements of the 20th Century".

As a member of the Public Health Committee, I know you share my concern for oral health care measures that affect all of us as a community. **I urge you to support this very important measure that will ensure healthier children and adults in our state.** If I can be of any assistance, please contact me. Thank you for your time and your commitment to the health of all Connecticut citizens.

Sincerely,

Heather A. Miller DDS MPH
Heather Crockett-Miller Chief Dental Officer

Community Health Center, Inc

crockeh@chc1.com

Office: 860-347-6971 Ext 3059



Serving underserved and uninsured patients at Connecticut's largest network of community health centers.