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Testimony before the Public Health Committee

Submitted by Representative Catherine Abercrombie

March 7, 2016

HB 5543: An Act Concerning Home Health Care Regulations

Good afternoon Representative Ritter, Senator Gerratana, Representative Srinivasan and Senator Markley. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support for HB 5543, An Act Concerning Home Health Care Regulations.

I believe that home health care is an important part of Connecticut's healthcare system. When people are able to stay in their homes despite the need for health care services, it is good for them, good for their families, and it is good for the state.

During the interim, a very productive legislative working group met several times to discuss concerns and issues regarding home health care services. Among the recommendations that came from the working group were those pertaining to home health care regulations.

The bill before you will continue the conversation about potential beneficial changes to these regulations between the Department of Public Health, legislators involved in the working group and home health care providers. Looking at these regulations will help make a more stable home care program that delivers quality care to consumers.

I urge you to lend your favorable consideration and support to this important legislation.