

Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Natalie McClune and I am a concerned citizen from New Haven.

I am writing you to ask for your support of **Raised Senate Bill 354**, a bill that will create a music therapy license in Connecticut. This bill is important because it will allow Connecticut citizens to more easily access music therapy services, and it will protect the public by ensuring that these services are provided by trained and qualified practitioners.

Please note that my support of licensure for music therapy is dependent on some language changes that have been submitted as written testimony by Jennifer Sokira on behalf of the CT Task Force. These changes ensure that the license is reflective of current board certification requirements in music therapy and is not limiting to the practices of Board Certified Music Therapists currently in CT.

There are over 80 music therapists in our state of Connecticut providing a variety of services to thousands of Connecticut residents. Music therapy can address a variety of needs, including decreasing pain following surgery, improving social skills among at-risk children, providing emotional support for hospice patients, or helping children with autism improve their communication. As a music therapist at VITAS Healthcare (hospice), I have worked with many of your constituents who benefit from music therapy services.

For these reasons, I ask that you please vote “yes” on **Raised Senate Bill 354!**

Sincerely,

Natalie McClune, MT-BC nmcclune.mtbc@gmail.com

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