

Testimony before the Appropriations Committee

Victor Buchelli

February 18, 2016

Waterbury, CT

Good evening Senator Bye, Representative Walker and esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Victor Buchelli and I am a registered voter and live in Naugatuck, CT.

I am here to testify on H.B. No. 5044 and I oppose any cuts to mental health services and supports.

I am a survivor of Connecticut's mental health and addiction services. In the late 1970's I was a graduate of Fairfield Hills. My diagnosis is manic depression or Bipolar Disorder. I also suffer from a physical disability- COPD and asthma. From being in the system I have become an empowered consumer. I am another voice for the disabled, homeless and addicted. It is senseless for any cuts to be made in mental health, when there are thousands people benefitting from services in the community. Please continue to fund our preventative, early intervention, supportive housing and mental health services in Connecticut, these program are an important part of our community.

Thank you,

Victor Buchelli