

Date: February 23, 2015

To: State of Connecticut Committee on Public Health

From: Richard W. Redniss and Lawrence P. Weisman, Co-chairs, Board of Directors  
Fairfield County Hospice House, Inc.

Re: Support for HB No. 5268

---

We are writing in support of the proposed language change in HB No. 5268 that amends Section 8-3e of the general statutes to eliminate the word “inpatient”.

The language in the current statute requires a hospice residence providing care to six or fewer persons and zoned as a single family residence to provide **inpatient** hospice care. Given the greater level of care requirements for **inpatient** hospice, the house would have to operate as a “health care facility”, which is a higher intensity level of care than a “health care residence”. This increased intensity in level of care is not needed for routine or continuous home hospice which is a less intensive use than inpatient hospice. The staffing required for this level of intensity is one reason cited why Rosenthal was not financially viable. Removing this barrier helps ensure that needed hospice residential care can be financially viable and available to serve the community.

The proposed change will not affect any other part of the statute. It will allow for inpatient care if needed, while retaining the single family residence zoning and other conditions of the statute including licensure by the Department of Public Health, not-for-profit status, restriction to communities with populations over 100,000, local zoning that allows development on one or more acres, and availability of public sewer and water.