



State of Connecticut
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

Testimony in Support of Raised Bill Number 5270
Public Health Committee
February 24, 2016

Chairmen Gerratana and Ritter, Ranking Members Markley and Srinivasan, and Members of the Public Health Committee, the House Republican Caucus would like to thank the Committee for raising Bill Number 5270: An Act Concerning the Right to Try Experimental Drugs.

This bill is an important House Republican Caucus proposal, and if passed, will allow certain eligible patients to try investigational drugs, biological products, or devices. The "Right to Try" movement is even more important to our state's citizens who are fighting to be given the right to be treated with certain medications and procedures in medically-supervised clinical settings.

The main goal of the "Right to Try" movement is to allow eligible terminally ill patients to be given an investigational drug, biological product, or device that has successfully completed phase one of a clinical trial, but has not yet been approved for general use by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, and remains under investigation in a clinical trial approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

Providing our most vulnerable citizens the unique opportunity to choose to participate in such a program is a major step towards improving their lives and futures. It is for this reason that I urge the Public Health Committee to pass Raised Bill Number 5270, "An Act Concerning the Right to Try Experimental Drugs" and allow patients the right to make the decision to try experimental medical treatments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Noreen S. Kokoruda".

Noreen Kokoruda
State Representative
101st District
Madison & Durham