

**Testimony Before the
Insurance and Real Estate Committee
February 23, 2017**

My name is Yaron Lew and I'm the Chief Operating Officer at Lauretano Sign Group, located in Terryville Connecticut. Our company is fully insured with about 50 employees. We are a full service sign company that designs, manufactures, installs and services sign projects throughout North America and the around world. This year we celebrated 70 years of doing business in Connecticut.

Please support HB 7042, An Act Controlling Consumer Health Care Costs and HB 544, An Act Requiring Prior Legislative Approval of Increases in Assessments and User Fees Charged by the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange.

As healthcare costs continue to rise, it makes it more difficult to do business in Connecticut. Furthermore, we want to ensure our employees have an affordable way of life here in our state. We believe a complete analysis before legislators vote on additional healthcare mandates is a great idea! And we think that getting approval from the legislature before our state's health insurance exchange increases fees makes sense.

I urge you to support **HB 7042** and **HB 544** to help address the rising cost of healthcare for employers and other businesses like mine.

Thank you for serving our state and for allowing me to share my input.



Yaron Lew
Chief Operating Officer