



Connecticut Department of Public Health

Testimony Presented Before the Public Health Committee

February 10, 2017

**Commissioner Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.
860-509-7101**

Senate Bill - 126 An Act Concerning Community Health Workers

The Department of Public Health (DPH) provides the following information in regards to Senate Bill 126. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

This bill would amend the statutes to define the roles and responsibilities of community health workers in Connecticut. The Department recognizes and supports the important service that community health workers provide by building bridges between communities and health and social service agencies.

The Department is not opposed to defining the roles and responsibilities of community health workers in statute. However, if defining these roles and responsibilities evolves into a recommendation to license, certify, or provide other regulatory oversight of this profession, the DPH is unable to do so within existing resources. The Department will continue to monitor the bill as it moves forward in the process and would welcome further discussions with the Public Health Committee on this matter.

Thank you for your consideration of this information.