



**John L. Cattelan**  
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**H.B. 5044, AN ACT CONCERNING**  
**FAIR TREATMENT OF SICK WORKERS**  
**March 8, 2018**

Senator Miner, Senator Gomes, Representative Porter and members of the Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity submit testimony. My name is John Cattelan and I am submitting testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs. The Alliance represents 21 YMCAs (including 37 branches and over 210 program sites) across the state of Connecticut.

I'm here today to raise concerns regarding H.B. 5044, An Act Concerning Fair Treatment of Sick Workers. We are opposed to the elimination of Section 1. Section 31-57r(4) "any nationally chartered organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, that provides all of the following services: Recreation, child care and education," from state statute.

The YMCAs of Connecticut have estimated this legislation would cost Connecticut Ys over \$850,000. This would have a negative impact on our over 8,000 employees, our 74,000 youth participating in our values based programs and the 11,000 children enrolled in childcare programs and after school programs.

Last year, Connecticut's YMCAs provided over \$11 million in financial assistance to Connecticut families so they can participate in a number of the Y programs offered across the state. These programs include housing, early childhood, after school, sports programs, art classes, aquatics, diabetes prevention, summer camp, and cancer survivorship programs. The options just mentioned only scratch the surface of the multitude of programs we offer at Connecticut YMCAs.

Connecticut's YMCAs offer a number of benefits to their part-time employees. These employees are offered free membership with our YMCAs. They are allowed to participate in the Y retirement plan, medical insurance, disability insurance and other assistance programs.

The 21 YMCAs in Connecticut are the states leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. As a charity, YMCAs across Connecticut exist to strengthen their communities and every day we work with thousands of men, women and children

to ensure everyone, regardless of age, income or background – has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. These are not easy tasks to accomplish and this legislation would make it that much more difficult.

As a charity, YMCAs across Connecticut exist to strengthen their communities and every day we work with thousands of men, women and children to ensure everyone, regardless of age, income or background – has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. These are not easy tasks to accomplish and both of these bills would make it that much more difficult.