



Connecticut  
Early Childhood  
Alliance

**Testimony of Merrill Gay in favor of HB 5298**  
***An Act Allowing Dental Assistants to Provide Fluoride Varnish Treatments***  
Public Health Committee  
March 5th , 2018

Co Chairs Gerratana, Somers and Steinberg, and Members of the Committee: My name is Merrill Gay and I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance. The Alliance is a coalition of over a hundred organizations ranging from individual childcare programs to statewide research and advocacy organizations. We represent a wide range of organizations that care for, and about, our youngest children.

We strongly support of HB 5298 “An Act Allowing Dental Assistants to Provide Fluoride Varnish Treatments. Fluoride Varnish treatments are one of the simplest things that can be done along with regular brushing and flossing to prevent decay. Allowing Dental Assistants to apply these simple treatments can make it much easier to make sure that more children can benefit from this preventative care.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony, and we look forward to working with you to ensure a healthier future for our youngest children.