



180 East Main St. Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 704-0078 www.abcwomenscenter.org

March 19, 2018

Testimony on
H.B. 5416 "An Act Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers"
Before the Public Health Committee
March 20, 2018

My name is Donna Annecharico and I am writing to you in opposition to HR Bill 5416. I have been involved with the ABC Women's Center in Middletown for many years as an office administrator.

ABC Women's Center, as well as many other pregnancy centers in Connecticut, is a faith-based organization that offers help for pregnant women. We offer compassionate, caring support for women who may be in an unplanned pregnancy. Our center offers free options counseling, pregnancy test, ultrasounds, baby material needs as well as parenting education. All of our service are free to the client and are fully supported by generous donations from individuals, churches and organizations. We receive no government funding.

H.B. 5416 contains false accusations concerning pregnancy centers of Connecticut.

I would like to testify that we are honest concerning who we are and what services we offer. We make it very clear that whether we are contacted by phone, website, written material, or other means that we do not provide or refer for abortions. We do not try to deceive women. We clearly state that we are a pregnancy center that offers information concerning a pregnancy decision. We believe that women are best served when they are given information concerning the different options that are available, including parenting, adoption or abortion. Our advertising clearly states that we do not provide abortions.

This bill is an attempt to silence us and try to limit pregnancy centers. There has been attempts by NARAL and other pro-abortion groups to shut down pregnancy centers. If they truly believe in a women's right to choose, then there should be options to choose from.

We are here to help and serve women and their families. Please vote no concerning this bill.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Annecharico



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Office Administrator at the ABC Women's Center

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Donna Annecharico
Office Administrator at the ABC Women's Center