

**TESTIMONY OF JESSICA LABRENCIS IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 5416: AN ACT  
CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES  
PREGNANCY CENTERS**

Dear Representative Steinberg, Senator Gerratana, Senator Somers, and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Jessica Labrencis. I am a resident of West Hartford. I submit this testimony in strong support of H.B. 5416: An Act Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers.

I volunteer as a clinic escort at the Hartford GYN Center, an independent women's health clinic in Hartford which provides a range of healthcare services including emergency contraception and abortions. As a clinic escort, I help patients safely find the clinic in the face of protestors and other obstacles. In Hartford, one of these obstacles includes a limited services or "crisis" pregnancy center called the Hartford Women's Center. The Hartford Women's Center opened directly across a courtyard mere feet away from the Hartford GYN Center. Patients who have appointments at the Hartford GYN Center may be confused both by the name of the Hartford Women's Center and about the services offered by the Center. Crisis pregnancy centers in Connecticut should be required to be clear and honest in their advertising so people are not confused or misled about the services they provide.

I strongly support H.B. 5416 to limit the deceptive advertising practices of crisis pregnancy centers in our state. I urge the committee to move forward with H.B. 5416.