

**Testimony for Public Hearing  
Committee on Public Health  
March 20, 2018**

Julie A. Levine  
25 Hilltop Drive  
West Hartford, CT 06107

**HB 5416 AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY  
CENTERS**

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

My name is Julie A. Levine and I live in West Hartford, CT. I am testifying in strong support of H.B. 5416 An Act Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers.

As a person who has made the difficult decision to have an abortion at one point in my life, I am vehemently against the deceptive practices by limited services pregnancy centers that include a pointed agenda of dissuading clients from exercising that legal option and misleading clients away from comprehensive healthcare centers entirely.

I also have a daughter who is of child-bearing age, and I want to know that if she needs reproductive advice, care, even an abortion, she would get these things from licensed medical personnel who understand and offer a full range of options. I would want to make sure she could do so without being manipulated or made to feel shame for her decisions by people who are not doctors, nurses, or counselors that she can trust to give her an honest picture and competent medical care.

It is unacceptable that women are being manipulated by these fraudulent centers. I strongly support H.B. 5416 to limit the deceptive advertising practices of limited services pregnancy centers in our state.

Thank you,

Julie A. Levine