

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

**Lisa Podurgiel
Westport, CT 06880**

**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 Lisa Podurgiel and I live in Westport. I testify in strong support of H.B. 5416 An Act Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers.

This bill is about transparency and honesty in advertising. When someone is seeking a clinic, they must be able to find one without confusion or deception. I understand that any organization can provide services but it should be crystal clear to people what those services are. I am concerned for women and families in my community and state. It is a threat to public health in our state when people are being deceived, delayed, or blocked in finding the reproductive healthcare they are seeking.

In conclusion, I strongly support H.B. 5416 to prevent the deceptive advertising practices of crisis pregnancy centers in our state. No matter personal feelings, I think we can all agree that no one should be deceived or misled when seeking healthcare. People in our state deserve honesty and transparency, and I urge the committee to move forward with H.B. 5416.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Lisa Podurgiel