

To the Honorable Members of the Public Health Committee,

I am writing to ask you to oppose any further consideration of the raised bill HB5416 concerning restrictions on pregnancy resource centers in Connecticut. I believe proponents of this bill are claiming as their goal the protection of women from being lied to at such centers. That is a laudable goal except that I am aware of no evidence to support the claim that such deception takes place. Without said evidence, the fact that such slanderous claims are made is regrettable to say the least. These centers aim to provide women with options that might not otherwise be considered. The proposed legislation is also problematic in that it holds these centers to a different standard than centers who provide medical options to end pregnancy. I fail to see how such a bill would add to the public interest. Finally, I find it troubling that this bill is even being considered while the U.S. Supreme Court is hearing testimony on this very topic. I'm certain there are other concerns that would be of greater importance to the health and well-being of our citizens. I respectfully request that you stop consideration of this bill and use the time to focus on issues that merit your attention and actually provide for the betterment of the people you very graciously serve.

Thank you,

Peter Reichenberger (Shelton)