

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

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Hartford, CT 06105**

**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 Dr. Ellen Robinson and I live and practice Obstetrics and Gynecology in the city of Hartford. I am writing in strong support of H.B. 5416 An Act Concerning Deceptive Advertising Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers.

This bill is very simple. It is looking to require “truth” in advertising so that women seeking reproductive healthcare are not misled in thinking they can obtain those services from an unlicensed nonprofessional, unregulated Pregnancy Center offering “love and support.” If an individual is looking for love and support and not needing healthcare she has the right to utilize any services she desires. But, however, if she needs medical attention, information and evaluation of a possible pregnancy she should not be deceived into thinking she is going to receive what she needs from a limited service pregnancy center or CPC. Reproductive healthcare during a pregnancy is time sensitive. Access to the appropriate healthcare is difficult as it is but shouldn’t be complicated by having to navigate through someone else’s agenda.

In conclusion, as a citizen of Hartford and a medical provider of women’s health services, I strongly support H.B. 5416 to limit the deceptive advertising practices of crisis pregnancy centers in our state. Please move forward with the approval of H.B. 5416.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ellen Robinson M.D., FACOG