

## Insurance and Real Estate Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-330

AN ACT CONCERNING EQUAL ENJOYMENT OF THE HIGHEST ATTAINABLE

**Title:** STANDARD OF HEALTH.

**Vote Date:** 3/14/2019

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/14/2019

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Sen. Looney, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
Insurance & Real Estate Committee

### REASONS FOR BILL:

To provide access to the highest attainable standard of health care in Connecticut.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**State of Connecticut – Insurance Department,** The Insurance Department indicated that it cannot provide a substantive comment on the proposed bill but will carefully review the bill once it is drafted.

**Ted Doolittle, Office of the Healthcare Advocate, Independent State Agency,** Testified in support of SB330. The Agency's believes the bill embodies one of the most important public policy statements that this legislature will ever make in support of the common good of the citizens of Connecticut.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Nancy Burton, MS, CNM - Universal Health Care Foundation,** The foundation believes that health care is a fundamental right and that their work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice. Their mission is to promote universal access to quality, affordable health care and to promote health in Connecticut.

**Sarah Croucher, Executive Director, NARAL Pro-Choice Connecticut,** The organization believes health care is a human right within our state, including access for all forms of reproductive healthcare. They believe it is imperative that Connecticut takes action to promote health equity at every level.

**Kathy Flaherty, Esq., Executive Director, CT Legal Rights Project, Inc.,** It is her belief that health care should be considered a legally-enforceable human right, and access to care should be universal.

**Madeline Granato, Policy Manager, Connecticut Women’s Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF),** The group believes that access to affordable health care is not only a human right,; it is also a critical component to advance the economic security of women in our state. They feel women with access to affordable health care are less likely to forego or delay much needed treatment and preventative care.

**Gretchen Raffa MSW, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy at Planned Parenthood,** The organization believes that as a health care provider and advocate, that all people in Connecticut deserve access to quality, affordable health care as a basic human right regardless of income, insurance, or immigration status.

**Karen Siegel, M.P.H., Connecticut Voices for Children,** The organization feels that every human being has the fundamental right to the highest attainable standard of health care and to the promotion of positive social determinants of positive health for every person.

**Ashley Starr Frechette, Director of Health Professional Outreach,** The organization believes that healthcare should be universal and guaranteed for all on an equitable basis. As a human right it is essential in order to address the enormous affects that domestic violence can have on victims and their families across the state.

**Katherine Villeda, CT Students for a Dream,** She believes everyone in Connecticut deserves access to quality, affordable health care as a basic human right regardless of income, insurance, or immigration status.

**Pastor Rodney Wade, Interfaith Fellowship for Universal Healthcare,** The group believes that health care is a human right, not a privilege. They feel the right to health is an economic, social and cultural right to which all are entitled.

#### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None Expressed

**Reported by: Dawn Silveira**

**Date: 3/26/19**