

Dear Members of Insurance and Real Estate of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Steven Munno, I am from Woodbridge, Connecticut. I am an organic farmer, I am employed by a small non-profit organization and I serve on the Board of Directors of another small non-profit in CT, neither of which are able to offer affordable health care to their employees. I support S.B. 842: An Act Concerning Health Insurance and Health Care In Connecticut.

S.B. 842 will make health care equitable, dependable, and affordable by creating new public options for health insurance in our state. This bill proposes to leverage the negotiating power and existing programs of the state employee health plan. If passed the State Comptroller's Office will administer the new plans in partnership with private-sector companies, and thousands of small businesses and non-profits may begin to offer affordable health care to their employees.

Quality health care will help keep workers healthy, allow small businesses and non-profits to offer better compensation to employees and retain employees for longer periods. This will improve the lives of tens of thousands of CT residents and improve the state economy.

I urge the Committee and Connecticut lawmakers to support S.B. 842 this session to expand high-quality, dependable, and affordable health care by creating new public options for health insurance.

Thank you for your time,  
Steven Munno  
Organic Farmer