

Dear CT State Senators and CT State Representatives of the Public Health Committee,

As a professional tattooer, the importance of experience when teaching can not be stressed enough. By allowing an artist with less than five years experience to apprentice someone is putting the general public at risk. People should be confident in knowing that when getting tattooed by a licensed technician they are receiving a tattoo from a knowledgeable, responsible professional. Not someone taught by a careless, inexperienced person. The licensure as it stands now allows apprentices to be more easily taken advantage of when they believe they're learning how to safely and properly tattoo people but in actuality they are not.

By limiting the number of apprentices a licensed artist can have, this would help eliminate fraudulent apprenticeships.

With the ever-growing popularity of tattoos comes a greater responsibility to the health and safety of those getting tattooed, and to the professionals within the industry.

Please strongly consider re-including the Tattoo Technician Language in: House Bill 6666- An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions To The Public Health Statutes before being voted out of the committee.

Thank you for your time.

Bronwyn Lewandowski

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