

Testimony in opposition of S.B. No. 835

To the members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Ramona and I am a graphic designer who works with various non profit organizations including some CT Pregnancy Centers. I oppose S.B. No 835 for the same reasons I opposed it the last 3 years.

I believe that if this bill gets passed it will infringe on the organizations right to free speech. Allowing the government to control a specific type of organization's advertising is exclusive and can be seen as a form of totalitarian. Only this type of organization is the targeting, no other.

I believe this bill is not clear enough to stand. What would be defined as "false advertising?" Just because an organization has different views than another doesn't mean their stance is false.

Lastly, the claim that these centers are hurting women is a baseless claim. Women are strong independent thinkers. They are able to make up their own minds regardless of what they have heard and seen. If I am not mistaken, there hasn't been any testimonies of women who were hurt by pregnancy centers and their "false advertising."

Pregnancy Resource Centers offer hope to those who have none. They also offer choices to those looking for information about their pregnancy decisions. Even after birth, pregnancy resource centers provide wrap around services for the family. They care for every member of the family.

For these reasons stated above, I oppose S.B. No. 835 and believe that for the 3rd time it should not be passed.

Thank you for your time,

Ramona Hylton