



Connecticut General Assembly
SENATE DEMOCRATS

Legislative Office Building, Room 3300
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

IN SUPPORT OF

Senate Bill 835: AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING

PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY CENTERS.

Good morning Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg, Senator Somers, Representative Petit and members of the Public Health Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on Senate Bill 835: AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY CENTERS. We are so pleased that the committee has raised this important legislation. The Senate Democratic Caucus also proposed this concept as part of our 2021 agenda.

This proposed legislation is rooted the basic principle that that predatory entities should not be frustrating the purpose of consumers using false advertising.

The bill would protect clients from deceptive advertising from facilities that provide services to pregnant women. These facilities, often referred to as “crisis pregnancy centers,” are organizations that attempt to look like legitimate family planning clinics, while actually providing medically inaccurate information. Under the guise of being a comprehensive reproductive healthcare provider, CPCs routinely use delay tactics and medically inaccurate information to steer people away from choosing time-sensitive reproductive healthcare. They frequently target urban neighborhoods and other medically underserved communities where people do not have access to regular gynecology services.

Irrespective of one’s views on access to abortion, we hope we can agree that using dishonesty to manipulate health care consumers is something that we cannot tolerate in Connecticut. We must protect our residents seeking real reproductive healthcare from the calculated misinformation of some crisis pregnancy centers.

Sincerely,



Martin M. Looney
Senate President Pro Tempore
State Senator 11th District



Saud Anwar
State Senator 3rd District



Christine Cohen
State Senator 12th District



Norm Needleman
State Senator 33rd District



Julie Kushner
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Bob Duff
Senate Majority Leader
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Alex Kasser
State Senator 36th District



Derek Slap
State Senator 5th District



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