

To the members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Ernest Smith and I am writing in strong opposition to S.B. 835. My daughter received exceptional help from a CT Pregnancy Center many year ago when she had an unplanned pregnancy. I was blessed with a wonderful granddaughter who is now enrolled in a CT community college.

As a result of that experience, I now volunteer at Hope Pregnancy Center of Cheshire, helping men who have experienced or are in the midst of an unplanned pregnancy.

The center does not falsely advertise their services. On the contrary I have found the board members as well as staff very conscientious and straightforward in their presentation of services to the community.

To enact the requirements of this bill on the Pregnancy Centers in CT would violate the rights of those who desire to service people in need according to their conscience.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ernest M. Smith