

Peter Wolfgang, President  
Family Institute of Connecticut Action  
Testimony in Opposition to HB 6820



As President of Family Institute of Connecticut Action, I  
OPPOSE HB 6820, AN ACT PREVENTING AN ADVERSE  
ACTION AGAINST A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER DUE TO AN ADVERSE ACTION  
TAKEN BY ANOTHER STATE AS A RESULT OF SUCH PROVIDER'S INVOLVEMENT IN  
THE TERMINATION OF A PREGNANCY.

It will be a great hypocrisy if this committee approves a bill that would punish Connecticut health care providers for following their strongly held beliefs (HB 6818) while favoring health care providers who actually break the law of another state for ostensibly following their strongly held beliefs. It highlights a moral preference for abortion over religious freedom. It is not consistent with Connecticut's stated goals of religious freedom, diversity and high standards for medical professionals.

It is also a great misfortune to blindly restrict a Commissioner's discretion to refuse to license or otherwise sanction a health care provider based on their illegal activity in other states. Violating the law of the state you choose to practice is objectively an unprofessional and disreputable level of conduct that Connecticut Commissioners must consider.

Connecticut women deserve doctors who obey the law in the states they choose to practice. We want doctors in Connecticut who respect the law. Someone who tends to think they are above the law in one area, will no doubt, be inclined to make moral justifications to ignore other laws. This should not be condoned or encouraged by our state.

Connecticut also seems to be unnecessarily provoking other states. Perhaps some creative state will punish doctors seeking licensure in their state for providing abortions in ours. Based on these and other issues I strongly urge you to oppose HB 6820.