Testimony of Amy Mrowka
East Hampton, CT

Thank you for taking your time to listen, as we are all aware of how very serious matter this is. I'd like to start by addressing Ms. Lenehan. Earlier in the season you made a statement when asked about amending HB7005 to add the removal of the religious exemption, in which you replied that you "weren't able to comment on a bill that you have not seen the language for." Yet, we are all here today to "testify" on a bill that we have no idea what will say or mean for our families. You'd have to agree it is quite unfair to not give a proper hearing for something that you yourself said would not be fair for you to comment on, let alone testify on, without knowing full disclosure of language but we are here doing just that. On a bill that does not even exist. We are here today at a hearing that was released far beyond the 5 day required notice and with the same experts that CANCELLED the original, actual bipartisan informational hearing that was ALREADY arranged and held by Mr. Elliot (even though he did not show). We are here at a hearing that was scheduled on a known "quiet" day at the capital. Was this on purpose to avoid as many legislative member attendees as you could? Is it coincidental that there was no public hearing considered from the start, that Yale cancelled the discussion and soon after, the CT school vaccination rates were released? To be quite frank, it seems as if this was very strategically planned that this all happened in the time frame that it did. Was the plan to cause division among the people regarding vaccination rates and use of RE to stir the pot? Wait a few days and then hold an informal hearing with 2 days notice ran by the very people trying to push this tyrant action? This is not how the process works. This is not "constitutional", its a sad excuse for a bipartisan hearing in every way. It is transparent that there is a clear division between our cause and certain representatives. They are using their power to strip Connecticut residents of their human rights as its stated in the US Constitution. General Tong deems this "legal" on the basis that there is a public health emergency in CT. The only problem is, there is no health emergency in CT, nor will there be. Now, Tong's reasoning for the emergency is being pinned on the possibility of outbreaks from pockets of un-vaccinated or low vaccinated rates of children in certain areas. The fact of the matter is, that still does not call for the creation of an e-cert bill that sneakily steals our parental and human rights like a thief in the night. Our rights are being threatened over nothing more than fear, propaganda and unreliable assumptions. There is no scientific evidence that herd immunity has ever been confirmed even POSSIBLE especially with passive immunity. There is also no evidence or reason to assume unvaccinated children pose a threat to anyone else. It's clear as day that there is a constant plan being devised to give excuses about why our religious exemption should be taken away from us. First, it was people abusing it, then it was measles, now it is to target and single out (similar to a witch hunt) areas with lower vaccination rates in hopes to create so much turmoil that you look like "you're forced to take action" and are helping the people. The bottom line is that there is nothing broken about our states current use of religious exemption, nor is there a public health crisis in CT. So my question is, what will the next reason be as to why you think the human rights of certain resident's of CT should be revoked so unjust and hastily? The only reason I can see is that there is some extremely concerning conflicts of interests among certain individuals who have shut out and targeted parents who utilize the RE. Since you could not use measles as a scape goat for this egregious, sneaky plan of action, you change the "reasoning". The new reasoning is less credible than the first. You have NO grounds to act in such a manner based on assumptions that these pockets- in which the vaccine rates have been
steady and never discriminated against in the past- as reasoning to abuse your power to terminate our rights as parents and humans by eliminating the RE. I'd also like to add that Mr. Ritter made comments comparing what CT should do to follow other states in regards to the removal of the RE. How convenient that he left out the fact that MANY states have said no to similar religious oppressing bills and that it is not the majority of the states pushing for this, only certain ones. In fact, Texas has discussed banning certain vaccines until there are double blind placebo safety studies done- or just plain safety studies at that! What CT should be doing is protecting the rights of their residents by abiding by the First Amendment of the US- which is freedom of religion. They should be protecting children by demanding liability from pharmaceutical companies and most of all, living up to it's name of the "constitution" state. None of this is constitutional. The only reason these same Yale Drs cancelled the informational hearing earlier in the season is because the evidence and information is so compelling and truthful that once that content was released to the press, it would crush any hopes in this type of action being tolerated. Instead, you've resorted to using scare tactics with misleading information and holding an unjust hearing with experts who only line up with your goal. You cannot be more transparent than that. If these Drs here today believe in the science so much, why could they not handle a discussion about it? If the science is settled, why are there more and more children injured and dying from vaccines than ever before? Science, is essentially never settled. Another word for science is "learning". It is constantly evolving and science is often unanswerable. There is always error and improvement but to sit here and say that you believe in science that has been PROVEN to be flawed and now entangled with unsafe excipients that undergo NO safety studies and are fast tracked by the FDA to market- is to say that you are bought. You mine as well add yourself to big pharma's payroll. However, the main issue regardless of how dangerous these current vaccines and vaccine schedule is- you have no grounds to cry wolf by claiming a health crisis in CT just to achieve what you set out to do in the beginning- which is to infringe on the rights of parents using the RE This is a sad day for CT as I can stand here and say that I know myself and MANY other families will take their family and their money and FLEE the state. If im not mistaken, this is the last thing CT needs is to lose a significant amount of families who pay taxes and reside in CT. Please, think long and hard about how this will end up effecting CT and their families- after all, thats what you ultimately care about, correct?