

To: Members of Mental Health Services Working Group and Task Force

Date: January 29, 2013

From: Mary T. Nagy, RN of West Hartford, CT

Re: Public Hearing Testimony for today, 2pm

Electronic
submission: asafconnecticut@cga.ct.gov

Dear Committee Members,

In reference to issues proposed and raised in Senator Michael McLachlan's email alert, I write to request how to address certain issues related to Mental Health in my local area. My experience is, we are not well represented by our Senator and Representative in the terms of religious faith, freedom and liberties. Questions relate to mandated reporting of missing persons, individuals and families, and persons with disabilities and economic limitations' rights and voices being removed. It is unclear how and where to report missing persons with known disabilities and to whom. Investigations on these cases are incomplete and undocumented. As a mandated reporter, early identification is removed, due to revoking rights to freedom of speech and religious expression. Definition of what constitutes involuntary outpatient treatment is totally unclear, and possibly unconstitutional. A public solicitation needs to be addressed in terms of including all levels of the public health system, including clergy in this training of religious freedom and public expression of beliefs and rights in our churches. Everyone needs to care, and not be suppressed.

Respectfully,

Mary T. Nagy, RN, BSN, COHN-S, COHC

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