



1st hospice in America

**Testimony Before the Department of Public Health
Regarding the Repealing of 19-13-D4b**

Monday, April 4, 2011

Dr. Mullen and members of the Department of Public Health:

I have been an active member of the Medical Staff as an Attending Board Certified Pediatrician at Connecticut Hospice since 2006. During that time I have taken care of many of my pediatric patients who were too complex to manage in the home environment at the hospice.

The quality of care that my patients receive from the whole Connecticut Hospice Interdisciplinary Team including nurses, aides, social work, the chaplain, the nutritionist, clinical pharmacist, the arts and dedicated volunteers is exceptional. Kudos to the great care that our pediatric patients, their siblings and families receive. The counsel and caring provided to the parents and caregivers of these children have been unparalleled.

My pedi patients have needed multiple high-tech/high-touch interventions 24/7. The Connecticut Hospice Hospital provides the vigilant staffing, the skills and the experience to manage these complex kids with serious life-limiting diseases, in addition to providing the level of understanding and compassion the family requires.

The pediatric population is very unique and the standard of care provided at the Connecticut Hospice is definitely needed for these poor kids as they go through this difficult part of life's journey.

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