

**PA12-064**

HB5455

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**H – 1128**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2012**

**VOL.55  
PART 6  
1746 – 2095**

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And will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5241, as amended by House "A."

Total Number Voting	144
Necessary for Passage	73
Those voting Yea	144
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	7.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill as amended passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 212.

THE CLERK:

On Page 38, Calendar 212, substitute for House Bill  
Number 5455, AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE  
INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE  
ESTABLISHMENTS, favorable report by the committee on the  
Judiciary.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins, you have the floor, madam.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

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Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I move for acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question is acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

Will you remark, Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

I'd like to just summarize. The current law makes it illegal for -- and a crime -- for any person to perform massage therapy without a license.

This bill makes certain changes to this statute and for the practices of illegal massage establishment by expanding the crime to cover employers, not just individual practitioners, who willfully and knowingly employ unlicensed massage therapists. It makes them guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

Current law also per -- prohibits the advertising of massage therapy services by persons who are not licensed. And this bill adds new char -- categories to this section of advertising restrictions, which includes

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the term Shiatsu, acupressure, Thai massage, Thai yoga massage, Thai yoga, as they must be performed by a licensed massage therapist as well.

And lastly, this bill adds a section regarding the investigation of illegal massage practices. And says upon the -- a credible complaint or belief by the Department of Public Health of a violation of this statute, the Department of Public Health may commence a formal investigation within 30 days of that complaint involving an alleged violation of this statute. And take the appropriate action by referring, if they find a crime has been or they suspect a crime has been committed, by referring that to the State's Attorney's office or the Attorney General's office for further prosecution.

The Clerk is in possession of an amendment, LCO Number 3406. And I ask to be granted leave of the Chamber -- I ask that you call that amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will the Clerk please call LCO Number 3406, which will be designated as House Amendment Schedule "A."

THE CLERK:

LCO 3406, House "A," offered by Representatives Grogins and Kupchick.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The Representative seeks leave of the Chamber to summarize. Without objection, without seeing any objection or hearing any, Representative Grogins, please proceed, madam.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you again, Madam Speaker.

This amendment makes technical changes to the language of the bill as suggested by the Department of Public Health, including the removal of a section involving the involvement of local departments of health, which they do not have jurisdiction over.

They're all technical changes. They don't affect the substance of spirit of the bill and the Department of Public Health is in agreement with those changes.

Therefore since I've summarized this bill, I urge passage -- my colleagues -- for favorable passage of this bill.

Thank you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Adoption. Adoption. I move adoption.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

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May -- may I move for adoption of this bill?

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The question before the Chamber is on adoption of House Amendment Schedule "A."

Will you remark further on House "A"?

Representative -- Representative Bacchiochi, House "A."

House "A." House "A."

Oh. Okay, Representative Aman of the 14th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. AMAN (14th):

Yes, I have been aware of the amendment coming forward by the members and the chairman of the Planning and Development committee. I think the summation is clear that it's mostly technical and it did solve the problems of the jurisdiction between the local and the state public health departments.

So I do urge my colleagues to vote for the amendment.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further on House Amendment Schedule "A"? Will you care to remark on House "A"?

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If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor  
please signify by saying "Aye."

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

All those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it.

The amendment is adopted.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as  
amended? Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

(Inaudible) adoption and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Will you care to remark further on the bill as  
amended? Representative Aman.

REP. AMAN (14th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I do have a -- a qui -- a couple of questions to  
the proponent of the bill.

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Please proceed, sir.

REP. AMAN (14th):

Yes. We're talking regularly in this bill on  
massage therapy and I would request that a definition and  
an explanation of what massage therapy actually is.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The definition that has been set forth of massage  
therapy is "the systematic and scientific manipulation  
and treatment of the body's soft tissues using pressure,  
friction, kneading, vibration, by manual ma -- range and  
means and range of motion and stretching."

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Aman.

REP. AMAN (14th):

I thank her for the answer.

I know that in some of the major cities this has  
been a problem. And I'm questioning why the local police

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departments, et cetera, were not able to enforce or solve the problem that this bill is addressing.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

I think that -- I think that this bill really makes it easier for the police department to go in and make arrests because upon a legitimate complaint now the Department of Public Health can commence an investigation.

Not only of the individual practitioners of this -- of these illegal massage establishments, but also they can question the employers as well. So it expands their abilities and their investigation.

And then upon their investigation, they can report to the prosecuting authority, either the police reports -- the police departments or the prosecutors, what their investigation has found.

And so I think it makes it easier. I know that my police department supports this. Obviously, a big city like Bridgeport and other big cities have very serious crime that they have to deal with. And so getting to

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these inves -- investigations is difficult when they're dealing with other violent crime. But this certainly will expand their abilities to address these very serious and significant issues.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Aman.

REP. AMAN (14th):

Yes. On that same token, I know that we had various groups speaking in favor of it. And I believe and I would like the proponent to expound on the representatives of the industry and what their feelings were about this regulation, since most businesses, when they know that more regulations are coming, are opposed. And I would ask the proponent to address that issue.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Yes. We had -- we definitely included in the drafting of this bill input from the American Massage Therapy Association, the Connecticut chapter, and we have

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spoken with many massage therapists and those participating in this industry.

And they have been very supportive -- supportive of this bill. As it really -- you know, these illegal massage therapists really degrade their legitimate profession. And so they are really seeking and supporting the passage of this bill.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Aman.

REP. AMAN (14th):

I -- I thank very much the proponent for her answers and her summaration (sic) of the bill. I think this bill does address a couple of the problems.

One of them was the photo ID of the therapist themselves. In that it was -- we heard at the testimony, that these licenses since all they had was a name on them were basically passed around from one person to the other. And the regulating authorities never really knew if the person on the license and the person they were talking to was really the same individual. So I think the photo ID will, at least, make that a little bit clearer.

And the other problem that was very clearly came forward was the fact that they might be able to make legal action against the therapists themselves or the person purporting to be a therapist, but the employer was under no obligation whatsoever to make sure that the people working for them were licensed, legitimate and doing the therapy as they were supposed to. So this does add a condition on the employer that they must control their own business.

So for that reason, I thank the proponent for coming forward and will urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further? Representative Jack Hennessey of the 127th, you have the floor, sir.

REP. HENNESSEY (127th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill.

Before I was a legislator, I was a massage therapist. And I still technically am although I'm not really practicing. But I maintain my license. So I got

licensed in 1996 and from the CCMT school -- Center of  
Massage Therapy in Westport.

And I got a lot of ribbing from like my fellow  
truck drivers and stuff. And -- and on my thinking when  
I -- when I present to you that I'm a massage therapist,  
I got -- my -- my fellow legislators, you know, have to  
make some kind of comments. And Representative Genga,  
the -- the -- it's pronounced Shiatsu, okay. So just to  
be clear on that.

But in 19 -- in 2006, I helped -- with your help,  
Speaker, to include the terms of massage therapy to make  
it illegal to use without a license.

And I really want to thank Representative Grogins  
for her hard work and to include these other terms that  
this illegal trade has morphed into accommodating. Since  
massage no longer is available, they now use Thai  
massage, Shiatsu and the like.

Also expanding the penalty to the employer is  
definitely a logical progression. And I commend  
Representative Grogins on her work.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

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Will you care to remark further on the bill?

Representative Phil Miller, you have the floor,  
sir.

REP P. MILLER (36th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I also rise in strong support of this bill and  
commend the sponsor for her really good work on this.

I formerly, back in the early 1990s, taught anatomy  
and physiology at the Connecticut Center for Massage  
Therapy in Newington.

And as Representative Hennessey mentioned they have  
campuses in Groton and Westport as well. And we have  
several thousand professionally trained, licensed,  
therapeutic massage givers in Connecticut. This is a  
legitimate medical and professional endeavor.

And it's always demeaning when a legitimate massage  
therapist gets little jokes about erotic massage or when  
they see ads in papers for erotic massage.

And I think this bill would further distinguish the  
legitimate therapeutic value of massage, which more and  
more of our people in Connecticut are using for really  
good results throughout this time.

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So I would urge passage of this bill.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Would you care to remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Kupchick, you have the floor, madam.

REP. KUPCHICK (132nd):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise in support of this bill for several reasons.

I just want to mention that the bill did pass unanimously through Planning and Development. Many parents in that area came and spoke about how these illegal massage parlors are really a -- just a detriment to the residential area in where they are. They're close to schools. They're where children play. They're near family restaurants. And they are just a -- just a -- just a -- a bad thing to have around children and in neighborhoods. And I think they also promote a -- a -- some, you know, human trafficking in these types of places.

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So when they're using someone else's ID or -- or certification for a massage therapist without a picture anyone could say they are that massage therapist.

So I think that this is an important bill for anyone who has these types of facilities in their area. It helps with the local community. It helps with the police department. And I think it's just a good bill and I hope that everyone will support it.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, madam.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended?

Representative Srinivasan, you have the floor, sir.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Good evening, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Good evening to you, sir.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

I, too, rise in strong support of this bill.

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And through you, Mr. Speaker, if I can ask a few questions of the proponent of this bill.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Please proceed, sir.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I -- is -- is -- for my own clarification and for -  
- for everyone here in the -- in the Chamber, once a  
person gets the license or finishes the massage school or  
the training, is there a gap between the completion of  
training and getting the license? Is there a gap or it  
is relatively so short it is almost automatic?

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you.

Thank you, Representative.

This bill, the licensure portion of this bill is  
already current law. And I'm not an expert on the  
procedure for obtaining a license. So I would have to

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refer you to the Department of Public Health on that  
because that is dealing with existing law.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Thank you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Thank you very much for that answer.

And through you, Madam Speaker, the reason I asked  
that is since now the people who will be giving massage  
at these various massage therapy places need to be  
licensed prior to giving the massage.

What happens quite frequently is there is a gap  
between completion of the course, they are working there  
and then -- then eventually, the gap will be over and  
they will get their license. And that -- because that  
happens in all practices, the medical practices as well,  
where they finish their training, they are working and  
their license is in process. So I'm not sure through  
this bill that that group of people will be impacted as  
well.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

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SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Again, the cur -- you're talking -- this bill does not change the law with regard to individual massage therapist practitioners. The existing law -- this bill doesn't require it now for existing practitioners to get licensed. That's already the law and has been the law in existence for several years now.

So whether or not there's a provisional license or that they cannot practice until they receive a license, the law existing, that's through the -- the licensure is through the Department of Public Health and you would have to address that with them.

My bill, the new provisions of this bill does not affect the current existing law on that. It only expands the law to employers.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Through you, Madam Speaker, yes, I definitely understand that the -- the provisions will be followed through as -- as written by or as monitored and supervised by the Department of Public Health.

But according to this new law, if -- if -- this bill, if it were to be passed, the people who are getting the license, that is the people that I'm referring to. Not people who already have the license or are already there as such.

Through you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Representative Grogins

REP. GROGINS (129th):

Thank you.

Thank you for the clarification.

No, it doesn't. The existing law on obtaining a license by individual practitioners has not changed. It will not affect prospective students or persons seeking a massage therapy license.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31st):

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

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And then the proponent of the bill for her answers.

I appreciate them. Thank you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended? For the second time, Representative Phil Miller.

REP P. MILLER (36th):

Thank -- thank you for recognizing me, Madam Speaker.

I thought I might be helpful in helping to answer a previous question. The question was when someone completes their course of study, what is the procedure to then get licensed?

Sometimes it is coordinated so that it's done fairly quickly. But what has to happen is a very long and extensive written exam is given. And sometimes that is coordinated so that a student with a lot of confidence can take it shortly thereafter graduating.

But there are many students who purposely will wait six or eight months so they can further study and maybe even take some coursework again. But it's a very

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demanding academic program to get the licensure. So I  
hope that would help.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as  
amended?

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS (129th):

I just want to thank -- this was a long time in the  
making and I had a lot of help and bipartisan support  
from both sides of the aisle.

I first want to thank my chairs on the Planning and  
Development committee, Representatives Gentile and  
Senator Casano (sic).

I want to thank Representative Fox in Judiciary. I  
want to thank our LCO attorney, Allison McKeen; Attorney  
Christy Scott from our House caucus, Representative Aman  
and his caucus and Representative Kupchick for all their  
support.

And all of you who have supported this, as well as  
my constituents in Black Rock, Representative Orange and

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the persons from the American Massage Therapy Association, Connecticut chapter, for all their efforts in making this bill as successfully done as it -- as it has been.

Thank you.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, madam.

Will you care to remark further?

Representative Jack Hennessey for the second time, sir.

REP. HENNESSEY (127th):

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Sorry to speak after Representative Grogins, but I just wanted to clarify the Representative's questions about practicing without a license.

Practicing without a license -- massage -- is illegal, whether or not you've gone through the training or in process or whatever. Until you get the license it's against the law to practice it. And that means, of course, going through the training and graduating from a certified school and joining such organizations as the American Massage Therapy Association, which gives you the

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insurance to practice. And also, an accredit -- passing accreditation tests. This all takes about a month to do after you've graduated. And then you can charge for may -- doing massage.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Thank you, sir.

Will you care to remark further on the bill as amended? Care to remark further?

If not, staff and guests, please come to the well of the House. Members, take your seats. The machine will be opened.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber, please.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted?

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If all members have voted, please check the board to determine if your vote has been properly cast.

If so, the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally.

And will the Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

House Bill 5455 as amended by House "A."

Total Number Voting 144

Necessary for Passage 73

Those voting Yea 140

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 7.

SPEAKER ORANGE:

The bill passes as amended.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 153.

THE CLERK:

On Page 8, Calendar 153, substitute for House Bill Number 5386, AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE INSURANCE STATUTES, favorable report by the committee on Insurance.

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PLANNING AND  
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PART 3  
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I'm sorry I missed the speaker before you, because I would have loved to have asked these types of questions to him or her, whoever it was. But I'm not sure this is going to serve the purpose that we're looking potentially for it to serve.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Any further questions?

Seeing none, thank you.

RAPHAEL L. PODOLSKY: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: State Representative Jack Hennessy.

Good morning, Representative.

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Good morning. Thank you, Representative Gentile. Hello, Representative Aman and members of the Planning and Development Committee.

My name is Jack Hennessy, and I'm testifying in support of Raised Bill 5455, AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS. Thank you, so much, for raising this, and I really want to thank Representative Grogins for taking the lead on this.

HB 5455

Cut to the quick and I'm really happy that this is -- well, hoping that this moves forward. In 2006 -- oh, by the way, I'm a massage therapist. Besides being a Fed Ex truck driver, I have my massage table in -- in my tractor, outside in the back. And that -- that -- that's a joke, as I'm not now doing massage therapy, at the moment, but I am a massage therapist and I take this very

personal.

The -- the industry is -- is a very important part of our medical therapy, and to be denigrated by illegal operations, such as this, has to be addressed. In 2006, I helped pass laws that outlawed the use of massage therapy and the different other derivations of that, and now since you no longer find the massage parlors on our Main Streets or wherever, they've changed their names using code words of "Shiatsu, Acupressure and Thai Massage." So now we have to include those as -- as sacrosanct to the industry, because these are other aspects of massage that are a bona fide health modality.

It -- it's also a good idea that the employers now are going to be held legally responsible and be in -- in danger of receiving a Class C misdemeanor. These things, you know, we're taking one step at the time, and I really hope that this passes.

And I'll be happy to answer any questions, if you have any.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Representative Hennessy.

You indicate in your testimony that you -- you attended school and studied to be a massage therapist. Can you tell me how long it takes for you to become a massage therapist, and then once you're licensed, who holds that license; is it through the Department of Health?

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Okay; sure. So it -- it took me a little over two years from graduating from the Connecticut Center of Massage Therapy, CCMT, in their satellite school in Westport, and it cost over \$10,000. I -- I was doing

that as a, while I was a full-time courier at Federal Express, and that was in 1996.

And I had to take a national certification test. I had to have graduated from an accredited school with over 500 hours of classroom and then apply to the Department of Health. And they're every year or every two years -- it seems like all the time -- every two years I have to renew my license with the Department of Health.

REP. GENTILE: And I'm assuming that within that -- that years of studying it in the classroom, that you probably had extensive exposure to studying anatomy. Would that be a fair assumption?

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Oh, yeah, classes in pathology, anatomy, neurology are extremely extensive.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Any further questions from the committee?

And thank you for your testimony.

REP. GROGINS: Yes.

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Oh, I'm sorry.

REP. GROGINS: That's okay.

REP. GENTILE: Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you.

Representative Hennessy, I just want to thank

you for your help with this and, you know, your commitment to helping this bill; it's a very important bill.

What I wanted to ask you is what do you think, what effect do you think that -- that having massage parlors and having illegitimate therapy provided by people who do not have licenses, what kind of effect does that have on your business?

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Well-- well -- and thank you for the question. It -- it denigrates the industry. I remember when I first decided to go to CCMT, I told my fellow truck drivers that I was going to be a massage therapist, and -- and they -- they said, oh, that's great; I hope I don't see you on the street corners, soliciting your wares, which, you know, I -- I didn't think was funny. I really resented it and especially all the hard work that goes into it. And -- and the financial outlay, it -- it's horrendous.

And, you know, these people will try to find any kind of manner to -- to basically do a prostitution out in the open, and -- and we really have to address this. And -- and this -- this is going to help us a little bit.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you, so much, for being here.

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Thank you, Auden.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Any other questions?

Thank you, Representative Hennessy.

REP. JACK E. HENNESSY: Yeah.

REP. GENTILE: I do see -- okay, Representative Orange, followed by Representative Butler.

Good morning, Representative Orange, the other Linda.

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: Good morning, Representative Linda Gentile.

I am here -- my name is State Representative Linda Orange, for the record, of the 48<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, and I thank you for allowing me to testify on the merits of House Bill 5455.

The Massage Therapists' Association approached me with their concerns this year. We met with Commissioner Mullen and Attorney General Jepsen on this matter to seek their input as well. The association has noticed a weakness in the licensure system whereby aspiring practitioners may be licensed through the Department of Public Health without having demonstrated ability to take the examination provided by the National Certification Board of -- for Therapeutic Massage and Body Work.

This bill -- thank you to Representative Grogins who started an initiative, and myself as well as massage therapists just jumped right on board. We have had several meetings regarding how to write the legislation, how to make the legislation work. And when the massage therapists first came to me, my first thought was human trafficking as being an issue. And just as recently as yesterday, there was in the Town of Clinton, an issue where a massage industry, whatever, was closed down, and there was an arrest for prostitution.

The Massage Therapy Association will not

tolerate, shall we say, this type of behavior. They are a professional organization of people that -- they -- they are proud, as you heard of from Representative Hennessy. They -- they are, they are proud of their work. They do good work and it is a profession.

This leads the association to the conclusion that there are more than one diploma mills in operation outside of Connecticut borders. The board's list of questionable schools has produced graduates opening businesses in Connecticut. Some of these people have been arrested for prostitution or have been observed engaging in business, routines that lead association officials to draw the same conclusion about the nature of their practice.

The implications for either prostitution or human trafficking were compelling reasons for this being brought to my attention, and I arranged a meeting for the Department of -- with the Department of Public Health and also with Attorney George Jepsen. And our next step was going to be the Chief State's Attorney's Office when Auden had concerns about this in her very own City of Bridgeport.

So I am happy to cosponsor this legislation, and I think that this is totally a nonpartisan issue. The City of Bridgeport is a -- is a large community; Clinton is a smaller town. This is something that is going on throughout our state, and if there is human trafficking involved and prostitution, it must come to an end.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Representative Orange.

Before you leave, I do have a question for you. You note in your, in your testimony that -- and rightly so -- that the Department of Public Health has a lot on their plate with licensing a broad diversification of professions, and the resources are not always available or in place to facilitate cross-referencing of these credentials and qualifications.

So my question to you is: In your meetings with the Department of Health, do they need more human resources to track this or are you talking about technological resources to cross-reference, and do they have the resources, meaning the money in place, to be able to do this?

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: I think that it's a combination of both. I believe that the way that the licensing is conducted, that they -- they will go in and see if a license matches the person, but that's as far as they go. They don't go into, to great detail when they, when they check a license, a licensed business.

I think that photo ID-ing would be a good idea for the massage therapist to -- to display a photo ID. There's a lot of talk about these, the -- the mills where they're coming from, unaccredited schools. And I think that the department, you know, that we need to stick with what we have now, with the association that's in place now that is working.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you. I appreciate your testimony.

Any other questions?

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: I just want to thank my cosponsor, Representative Orange, for this and for your leadership on this. You've been actually dealing with this for many, many years, haven't you, with the American Massage Therapy Association --

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: Yes.

REP. GROGINS: -- and their concerns?

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: Yes.

REP. GROGINS: So this is a chronic problem, in your opinion?

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: This is a chronic problem and I -- this needs to be addressed. This -- this is mainly females that are being trafficked, and we -- we just can't allow this in our state.

REP. GROGINS: And --

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: And I can tell you, too, that there is one town -- and perhaps the president of the association can get into this when he testifies -- that is milling, shall we say, hundreds of so-called licensed massage therapists from one particular town in New York, and they're coming into Connecticut. So that, right away, would send up a red flag.

REP. GROGINS: Do you think that it's important; I mean, not only are we asking for state regulation, but do you think it's important that we've expanded the law on this to include employers? Do you --

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: Absolutely. Absolutely; that -- that is one way that is, you know,

that's a -- a way that is going to help the industry.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you, so much, and thank you for your work.

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Any further questions?

Seeing none, again, thank you, Linda, for being here.

REP. LINDA A. ORANGE: You're welcome. Bye-bye now.

A VOICE: (Inaudible) day off, Linda.

REP. GENTILE: Representative Butler. Good morning, Representative.

REP. LARRY B. BUTLER: Good morning, and thank you for this time. I have to apologize; I know you've gone by my name a couple of times, but as I could see by many members of your committee also in a public hearing on Finance, so I've been going back and forth to committees and public hearings.

Good morning, Co-chairs, Senator Cassano and Representative Gentile, and honorable members of the Planning and Development Committee. My name is Representative Larry Butler, from the 72<sup>nd</sup> District, in Waterbury, and I'm here today to voice my -- my support for House Bill 5454, AN ACT CONCERNING THE VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY EMINENT DOMAIN.

This bill is in response to the recent use of eminent domain to acquire property in Waterbury

All right; Scott Raymond, followed by Shurkey Cooper.

A VOICE: It's Shirley.

REP. GENTILE: Shirley; thank you.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: It is afternoon now, isn't it? Good afternoon, Representative Gentile and the members of the Planning and Development Committee.

My name is Scott Raymond; I am a licensed massage therapist and a Thai Massage practitioner. I'm currently the President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association, the owner of Market Square Wellness Center, in Newington; I am a continuing -- continuing education instructor as well as an educator for the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy.

It is my honor to write this on behalf of over the 2200 licensed massage therapists in the State of Connecticut that are members of the American Massage Therapy Association, and we speak in favor of Bill No. 5455.

After attending many meetings with the Department of Public Health, with the Attorney General's Office, meetings with licensed massage therapists at hearings in Connecticut towns, it seems as if there's confusion regards to how to approach the prosecution of individuals and businesses that violate the Public Act 07-35. This bill will help clarify and empower the Department of Public Health on a state and local level to investigate offenders of this public act.

There are issues around public health, public safety, practitioner safety, and even worse, human trafficking. Some individuals are using the health care profession of therapeutic massage to hide sexually oriented businesses. Individuals have possibly learned how to illegally obtain licenses inside the State of Connecticut.

When you researched Connecticut Licensed Massage Therapists on the web site, you will see 500 individuals licensed to perform massage therapy from the, from the State of New York. Of those 500 from the entire State of New York, there are over 200 from Flushing, alone. Flushing, on the east coast, Flushing, New York has been considered a major recruiting center for human trafficking issues, both by law officials, by the FBI, and -- and different advocates of human trafficking, by adding the business owners to the penalty to be also charged with a Class C misdemeanor for advertising massage illegally, just for merely employing uneducated, unethical, and illegal individuals that are endangering the general public.

Shiatsu, Acupressure, Thai Massage are Eastern modalities of body work, just as Swedish, deep tissue, and sports' massage can be considered as Western modalities of body work. Extensive training is required for all aspects and all styles of massage, either Eastern or Western. They require communication, education, physical and ethical safety.

In the General Statutes, "massage therapy" means a systematic and scientific manipulation of -- and treatment -- of soft tissues of the body by using pressure, friction, and percussion and kneading. It maintains good

health. The East, well, the Eastern and Western modalities are required, and it needs to be very, very clear in the health care profession and for the general public safety.

That was my buzzer, wasn't it?

REP. GENTILE: Yes, it was.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: I can go on and on. I do apologize for that, but I'll let you ask questions, instead.

REP. GENTILE: We appreciate somebody who --

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: And I'm sure --

REP. GENTILE: -- obeys the rules.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: -- everybody else does too.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, so much.

Are there --

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: Oh, you're welcome.

REP. GENTILE: Are there any questions?

A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

REP. GENTILE: Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: Mr. Raymond, I just want to thank you, so much, for, you know, your coming here to support this bill today and for your important testimony.

You're President of the American Massage Therapy Association in Connecticut; is that correct?

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: The Connecticut chapter, yes --

REP. GROGINS: Yes.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: -- I am.

REP. GROGINS: The Connecticut chapter.

Can you tell me, is this a chronic problem that's been going on for over the years or what's your -- been your experience in -- in the profession, itself?

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: This is a chronic problem that's been going on over the years. Years and years ago, back in the seventies and probably earlier, you could always tell when you walked into an established that was sexually oriented. Currently, the way things are running now, you cannot tell superficially. People have licenses posted. People that had -- that can't speak the English language have licenses posted.

In order to pass the exam in the State of Connecticut, it's a national certification exam for therapeutic massage and body work. Both Eastern and Western modalities are included within that exam. You need to be able to understand the English language to take the exam. They will not translate it for you, unless you have an issue with the written word. If you understand the English language, you can take the exam and have it read to you, but you have to understand it; they will not translate it.

And we've had police officers walk into establishments that have a license, and the individual needs a translator; they cannot

Speak the English language. And this is not against anybody who cannot speak it, but you have to understand it in order to get a license by the State of Connecticut.

So this has been an ongoing problem but now it's gotten much more fine-tuned and detailed. It's -- it's -- it's a much larger concern now, because now they are hiding under the guise of a licensed therapist, and they are not. They shouldn't be licensed; it's unsafe and it's unethical.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you, so much for --

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: Oh, you're --

REP. GROGINS: -- your important testimony.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: -- welcome. And thank you, very much, for bringing this forward. I do appreciate --

REP. GROGINS: Thank you.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: -- that.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: Any other questions at all?

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

SCOTT L. RAYMOND: Excellent. Thank you, very much for your time. I appreciate it.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, sir.

Shirley Cooper.

SHIRLEY A. COOPER: Good afternoon, members of the

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Planning and Development Committee.

My name is Shirley Cooper, and I have been a practicing massage therapist now for almost 28 years. And, as Scott said before me, concerning the problems that have been addressed concerning illegal massage, years ago we fought just the massage parlors, and today they've come around to a different way of kind of sneaking in the back door, as we've heard.

In my testimony is written a lot of what Scott addressed, especially concerning the folks that are coming in from Flushing, New York, that are of Asian descent and probably do not speak English. I know that the Public Health Department is putting in a bill, also, to help revise the public state statutes that will strengthen our law and better enable law enforcement to address issues that arise.

We need to hold the employers accountable for hiring someone that is either not licensed or fraudulently licensed. Currently, it is the person doing the massage that can be fined and/or arrested. We've seen situations where the person that operates the establishment simply walks away, closes down, and goes down the street and opens up again or in another, neighboring town.

The addition of the words "Shiatsu, Acupressure," and "Thai Massage," under the advertising section, which several years ago we strengthened the law by saying that a person has to put their license and their name on any advertising of massage therapy. And all of these modalities clearly fall under the scope of the massage therapist statute, as they are manipulation of the soft tissues of the body.

I believe it is in the best interest of the public, myself, and the massage therapy profession to approve the passage of the legislation. And it really saddens me that after almost 20 years, here I am again up in front of the committees fighting the same battle that we fought for almost 20 years, so it would be in our best interest.

And we thank you, Representative Grogins, for sponsoring our bill.

Thank you, very much.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Shirley. We appreciate your time and testimony.

Are there any questions?

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: I -- I just want to thank you for coming in and providing this important testimony. And -- and it's really the committee that's raised this bill, and it's just a very important issue. So thank you for your help on this.

SHIRLEY A. COOPER: Well, thank you very much.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Fran Ray.

FRAN RAY: Good -- good afternoon, Representative --

REP. GENTILE: Good afternoon --

FRAN RAY: -- (inaudible).

REP. GENTILE: -- Fran.

FRAN RAY: Good afternoon, members of the Planning and Development Committee.

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I am here to present a little different take on -- on unlicensed persons; it's not involving the sex trade, which I am also sorry to hear is still going on. I am a licensed massage therapist, since 1991, also an active member of the AMTA. And what I see taking place, in increasing numbers, is that of yoga studios, and particular in Fairfield County, where I practice, where they are offering what really amounts to Thai Massage under the heading of "Thai Yoga body work, Thai Yoga," and "Thai Yoga therapy."

These studios are attaching the practice of Thai Massage to yoga, calling it these names, and by -- thereby creating this back door to bring in Thai Massage as an alternate revenue source while circumventing the licensing requirements applicable to massage therapy. Even when you go to their web sites and read the descriptions that they list for Thai Yoga, they, themselves, characterize Thai Yoga as "massage."

Within a short radius of where I work, at a chiropractor's office in Fairfield, Connecticut, within a three-mile radius, there are six persons practicing Thai Massage unlicensed, that I know of. And I have reported them to the Department of Health, in December. And this has been going on for a number of years, and the numbers of the persons, number of persons practicing is growing. And -- and I'm finding this within the yoga community, whereby they're -- they're saying Thai Massage is yoga because it does have a strong Indian influence; however, I am

also a yoga instructor and I can tell you that my training as a yoga instructor does not give me the expertise to be moving a person's body around and manipulating their soft tissue.

What I've learned in my experience in reporting this to the Connecticut Department of Health is that both the establishment that hires unlicensed persons to perform massage and the persons who are unlicensed performing massage are -- are not regulated, and there is no penalty for them, at this point in time. And I do think they put the public quite at wrist -- risk.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Fran.

You mention that this type of manipulation or stretching could be harmful to an individual's body. Can you give us some examples of what possibly could occur --

FRAN RAY: It's very --

REP. GENTILE: -- occur?

FRAN RAY: Yes, very easily tearing muscle tissue, tearing tendons, tearing ligaments, because while I am providing a lot of pressure, the -- the -- the modality is done on the floor. So I have a lot of leverage over the person when I perform this work, with a lot of compressions on the muscles, at the same time taking them into quite extensive stretching for their bodies. You know, we take it slightly beyond the range of motion to get a release. And, also -- I'm sorry; I've lost my train of thought. So the -- the modality is actually quite intricate and -- and can do a lot of harm

to a person, when the person providing the work is not properly trained.

And these yoga studios are adamant. I've talked to them personally, and they are just adamant and pretty much laugh in my face and say I'm a trouble-causer because I am bringing to light that they are practicing unlicensed.

So what I would like to propose or my thought is that the word "yoga" is added to "Thai Massage" in this bill, because it is often called "Thai Yoga Massage, Thai Yoga." And that would be a way of representing the work more specifically and that it is not yoga, it is massage.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Any questions from committee members?

Thank you, Fran.

Representative Grogins, no?

REP. GROGINS: I just wanted to thank you for coming.

FRAN RAY: And I want to thank you for bringing this bill up; I think it's long overdue. Thank you, very much.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you. All of you have given a very interesting and different perspective, so thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Rick Haesche.

RICHARD HAESCHE, JR.: Good afternoon. I'm here to speak in support of H.B. 5455. I also want to express my gratitude to the AMTA

representatives who put together this with Representative Grogins and others.

I'm a licensed massage therapist. I've been in this field for over 17 years. I served as Director of Operations for the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy for 7 years, having been employed there for 12. I specialize in traditional Thai Massage. I have 600 hours of basic massage education and probably another 500 hours or so of advanced education in traditional Thai Massage.

Like Fran, I -- I do support this bill and I really applaud the addition of "Shiatsu, Acupressure" and "Thai Massage" into the language. I think it really helps to further define the field. And I also, if I had a wish list, I would want "Thai Yoga Massage" and "Thai Yoga" to be inserted, as well.

I see every day in my practice and in -- I -- I also -- I'm also a teacher, a continuing education provider of Thai Massage, and so I see a lot of people who are trained in this Thai Yoga. They go to a weekend workshop or maybe a five-day workshop, and they come out and they hang out a shingle and basically do what I do and charge the same amount of money that I charge. And I think it's dangerous to the public.

There are some moves and techniques in traditional Thai Massage that, like was briefly touched on, can hurt people, and I've seen injuries over the years. And it takes a very sensitive hand and a very skilled and knowledgeable practitioner to administer this kind of work. It's not right-out-of-massage-school modality; it's something that you practice for years and years and years.

When I was in Thailand, training, my instructor said, when I was leaving, now go practice 1000 bodies, and -- and then you'll just be getting started. So in order to take this seriously, I think that the insertion of "Thai Yoga" and "Thai Yoga Massage" would further clarify the difference between what a practitioner can offer the public safely and what a person can offer after a weekend or two of a workshop.

So, again, I thank you for -- for the opportunity to speak, and I am in full support of H.B. 5455, as written, but I would love to insert those words.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Rick. We appreciate your testimony, and thank you for submitting it in writing.

RICHARD HAESCHE, JR.: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Questions, comments?

REP. GROGINS: I just want to thank you, Rick, again; it was very important testimony.

RICHARD HAESCHE, JR.: Thank you.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you.

RICHARD HAESCHE, JR.: Thanks.

REP. GENTILE: All right; sorry for the delay.

We have several speakers next who are all from the same organization. If you would like to come up individually, that is fine; if you want to come up -- up as a group, you may do so as well. We have Joy, Stephanie, Donald, and Jennifer, all from One Bridgeport.

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A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

REP. GENTILE: Oh, I'm sorry. And we also have  
Maxine and Susan.

JOY CLINE CADWALLADER: Good morning.

REP. GENTILE: Good morning -- good afternoon.

JOY CLINE CADWALLADER: Oh, I think I'm just going  
to go first, and I'm going --

A VOICE: Good.

JOY CLINE CADWALLADER: -- to be fast. Yeah.

Good morning. Thank you, Representative  
Gentile and all of the members of the Planning  
and Development Committee for allowing me to  
speak in support of House Bill 5455.

My name is Joy Cline Cadwallader, and I'm a  
resident of the Black Rock section of  
Bridgeport, Representative Grogins' District.

My husband and I bought our house in this  
sea-side neighborhood, seven years ago, because  
we love the area. We wanted to start a family  
and understood the local elementary schools  
were excellent.

Fast forward to present day, we are the proud  
parents of a five-year-old and a  
three-year-old, and it is on their behalf and  
on behalf of the children and families in the  
neighborhood, and really throughout Bridgeport,  
that I stand before you to urge the passing of  
this bill.

I have a photograph of the proximity of the

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massage parlor in question, near Black Rock School. May I present it? Here, (inaudible).

A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

JOY CLINE CADWALLADER: Okay; thank you.

One of the four massage parlors in Black Rock sits about 20 yards away from the playground at my kindergartner's school. The fact that an establishment participating in prostitution could be seen by the children in the playground as the customers and employees of the same business similarly have eyes on the playground, it's deeply disturbing to me. I'm very concerned that illegal and lewd behavior is occurring in a systematic and routine way in such close proximity to where hundreds of children are in direct line of vision, one of whom is my own. Forgive me.

I respectfully submit to you that for the reasons I've mentioned, as well as for all the folks that are here testifying on behalf of this bill, that you push it through. It's really urgently important to the quality of life for our residents in Bridgeport, as well as for the children.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Joy. We appreciate your testimony.

Auden.

REP. GROGINS: I just want to thank -- thank you, Joy. It's really important for members of the committee to know how it affects people who live in really nice residential neighborhoods where there's elementary schools and children,

and so I thank you for making this long trip up here.

JOY CLINE CADWALLADER: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: And, again, we do have several from One Bridgeport. You're welcome to come up individually or as a group. Just state your name for the record, please.

STEPHANIE BARNES: Stephanie Barnes.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

STEPHANIE BARNES: And I think we are going to come up individually.

Thank you for having us here today. I speak in support of Bill 5455.

I'm a resident of Black Rock. I have a young child who lives in Black Rock. That we know of, there are nine operating spas in Bridgeport, four of which are in our business corridor, three of which are in walking distance from two elementary schools, and one of which is located not even 200 feet from the playground of one of, one of our elementary schools.

We did some brief research. We found four links where men go onto sites and rate their experiences at these spas, which are not clinical experiences; they're sexual experiences. One man is quoted, in [www.worldsexguide.org](http://www.worldsexguide.org), as being quoted once in the massage rooms about different kinds of sexual experiences that he could pay for and the rates thereof. I urge you to go onto these sites to read it; it's disturbing but it's the fact, and it will illustrate what's going on in

our area.

In addition to caring about our residential community, our children, and our business corridor which can't thrive when businesses don't want to come in and be next to these businesses -- and we need the commercial base for our taxes, for our property taxes to go down; it's not happening -- we're concerned about human trafficking in our areas and under our noses.

And just to read what I have to say about that, and then I'll be done, it says: In addition to caring about our children, our residential community, our business community, we cannot ignore that these businesses also create an environment for human trafficking. We have all heard the stories of abductions, trickery, and cruelty that are imposed on women and children who are forced into a life of sexual servitude. Unless we take a stand and stop allowing these businesses to flourish in our cities, towns, states, and country, we will always be creating the demand that keeps the vicious cycle going.

If we do not take a strong stand against these businesses, if we allow them to stay in our neighborhoods, then we as the adults and the watchers and keepers of what is right and what is wrong are sending a very strong message to our children and our neighbors that this is okay on or watch, and it's not.

Because of the evasiveness and secrecy of these businesses, our law enforcement do not have the ability to catch people in sexual acts and prosecute accordingly. I urge for the passage of H.B. 5455.

And I thank you, very much, for letting us be

here today.

REP. GENTILE: Stephanie, before you leave, you just mentioned law enforcement. I would assume that the law enforcement agents of your community know what's going on here; do they not --

STEPHANIE BARNES: They've written letters.

REP. GENTILE: -- increase patrols?

A VOICE: I don't know.

STEPHANIE BARNES: I mean, they've -- it's -- it's hard to set somebody up in the act, because then you're participating in the act, and then you are guilty. It's a tricky kind of thing.

So with the Health Department, it creates laws and other ways of going about it so that we can regulate accordingly, and also the licensing.

REP. GENTILE: I guess what I'm trying to establish here is would they not just increase the patrols in the area and with the increased patrols, act as some sort of a deterrent?

STEPHANIE BARNES: I don't think so.

REP. GENTILE: Okay.

STEPHANIE BARNES: I mean, this is my opinion; I'm just one gal who lives in the neighborhood. But I -- I have no idea.

I -- we do have testimony from our police chief and our police captain, which will be read by Susan Brannelly, our council person. So that might give a little bit more clarification on that.

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REP. GENTILE: Thank you, very much, for your time.

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: Thank you, Stephanie. I just want to thank you, again, for organizing this for, well, as One Bridgeport leader and that it's very important testimony.

And just, Madam Chair, I've just -- and coming from the area in which my constituents have come, the problem with Bridgeport Police is they are overwhelmed, and so it would be -- they'd really have to start an -- an operation, a sting, long-lasting sting operation that goes on, and they just don't have the wherewithal to do that. So having this increased regulation with the State Department of Health, bringing in the local authorities as well -- local meaning Health Department -- that really helps them -- they've indicated to me -- do their job as well.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Representative Kokoruda.

REP. KOKORUDA: Thank you.

Actually, Representative Grogins answered my question. I was curious about if you could go on the web sites and see what's going on, why aren't the police doing the same thing? But I, obviously, I've got my answer.

I just want to thank you for this heartfelt testimony. Every parent here hears you.

Thank you.

STEPHANIE BARNES: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Donald Greenberg.

DONALD W. GREENBERG: I thank the committee for allowing us to testify.

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I'll be very brief; you have my written testimony. I just wanted to make, there are two quick points. One is the message that we're sending our community and our children and our teenagers when we allow these businesses to flourish, when everybody knows in point of fact that they're just evading the law. As I indicated in my written testimony, studies show that nothing -- nothing demeans the law more than when people think that some people are above it; and this seems to say some people are above it.

The only other point I want to make is that there are seven or eight of us here from the community. Every one of us probably gave up a day's work to be here, so we really, really care about this issue. This is not -- we're not professional lobbyists or anything like that; we're just citizens who know that something must be done.

And we really want to thank Representative Grogins and those who are supporting us in bringing this bill forward.

Thank you, so much.

REP. GENTILE: Donald, thank you for your testimony.

Any questions or concerns?

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: I just want to thank you. I know all of you gave up a lot of time out of your personal lives and business schedules, and -- and -- and I know some of the people here have small children. It's very important, and I appreciate your coming to support this.

A VOICE: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Jennifer Buchanan.

JOAN LINDQUIST: No, I'm Joan Lindquist (inaudible) speak.

A VOICE: Joan (inaudible).

JOAN LINDQUIST: I'm going to skip part of mine. I just want to say on a larger scale, you can all help us to even improve the City of Bridgeport. The City of Bridgeport was once a booming city. And efforts are now being made to revitalize it, and it certainly needs all the help it can get.

And I urge you to pass this H.B. 5455 so that these massage parlors can leave our community.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Joan, thank you.

Are there any -- yes.

JENNIFER BUCHANAN: Yeah, I'm Jennifer Buchanan.

REP. GENTILE: Oh, okay.

JENNIFER BUCHANAN: I, too, support this bill for

all the reasons everyone said, but one thing I -- I would like for all of you to be aware of, when -- when I have gone to the police, to attorneys or to the FBI to discuss this, especially with the web sites available, that is considered hearsay and therefore they're not able to take the -- the web sites forward and prosecute.

One of the things I feel strongly that this law does is gives us the power to have to not use hearsay. Connecticut has great laws and they're -- and -- and a lot of them are pretty loosely interpreted, and for that, we're very grateful. But I think this is a case where the loose interpretation of the laws and the rules or regulations are being used by the criminal element to the detriment of the community.

And one of the things we want you to be very aware of, the community is tired of it. And so we are now saying to you, please make a tougher law for us. Because we have stood out there and picketed; we've taken pictures; we've gone through all the sources that we can; we need your help. Please pass this bill. Oh (inaudible).

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Jennifer.

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: I'm sorry. I just want to thank every -- every single person here who's come from my community. It's very important and I appreciate your important testimony.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

Next. I -- I -- I'm assuming you're from One Bridgeport?

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: I, well, I'm from Bridgeport;  
yes. My name --

REP. GENTILE: Okay. And -- and your name?

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Susan Brannelly.

REP. GENTILE: Oh, okay. Thank you.

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Thank you. And I want to thank  
you all for the opportunity to be able to  
speak.

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My name is Susan Brannelly, and I -- I am a  
resident of the City of Bridgeport. I  
represent this district, where most of us are  
from, on the city council. I very proudly  
represent the 130 -- 130<sup>th</sup> District, on the city  
council.

We've been working -- I just wanted to kind of  
give you a perspective, what we're doing  
locally -- whereas we've been working very  
hard, trying to establish an ordinance that  
will be presented at the city council for  
consideration on Monday in regard to sexually  
oriented businesses.

Currently, we have an ordinance in regards to  
massage parlors and massage therapists, but  
we've also revised that to make it very, very  
clear as to what we're, what we're looking to  
do. The -- the local ordinance really comes  
from a health perspective; it's about  
protecting our -- our constituents. It's about  
protecting the people who work in -- in these  
establishments and about the patrons of the  
establishments. And -- and so our perspective  
can only go so far.

As we talk to the police and the prosecutors about how to get into the illegitimate side of these businesses, they said you really have to have teeth at a state level, because what -- what -- what is being done right now -- and forgive me, because I -- I don't speak well to the law, itself, but I -- I believe that it's a misdemeanor. And we need for it to have more teeth, so that the enforcement of, from the police side of things has actual -- they have an opportunity to actually take these businesses and -- and the illegitimate businesses and be able to do something about their operation.

I do have a statement from the police of chief -- from the police of chief -- the chief of police. And -- and our local captain is a sector captain, and I'll just quickly read the -- the chief of police's.

"As the Chief of Police of the Bridgeport Police Department, I am writing this letter in support of Representative Auden Grogins' House Bill 5455. This bill will provide the ability for the Bridgeport Police Department to enforce the law on massage establishments to ensure that they do not evolve into inappropriate or illegal -- illegal businesses. The bill will also enable the police department to focus on promoting and improving the quality of life for the community.

"Again, I'd like to reiterate my full support for H.B. 5455 and urge you to pass the bill so we can continue our efforts to revitalize Bridgeport and keep our community safe."

Revitalizing Bridgeport is a very important thing to the entire state, because we feel very strongly that if we are a negative draw on the

state, the whole state is at risk. And if we are to flourish and were able to actually evolve, then we can be much more giving to the rest of the state and be able to provide the largest city for it to be, you know, a wonderful place to live, where we believe it does.

Thank you, very, very much for your time.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Susan. We appreciate your testimony.

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: Yes. I -- I also want to thank you, Councilwoman Brannelly, for all your efforts --

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Thank you.

REP. GROGINS: -- locally. Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Senator Cassano.

A VOICE: (Inaudible.)

SENATOR CASSANO: No, I -- just a --

A VOICE: I think that someone --

SENATOR CASSANO: Ah, yes, probably, not even so much a question. It sounds so much like a law-enforcement issue, and I think your attempt to get the local ordinance on top of it is -- is significant.

We do have written testimony from Commissioner Jewel Mullen, and the Commissioner is, in fact, opposed to this. And it looks like he's

opposed to it basically because of the effort that it's going to require for enforcement.

And that seems to be exactly what each of you was saying, that nobody seems to want to enforce the rules and regulations. And no matter what we pass, if we don't have enforcement, then what are we doing? And it -- it makes me question that -- that process. So I would like -- I would be in touch with the Commissioner to find out how they would approach that.

But having the local ordinance on top, we see really a front, somebody posing as a massage parlor to do what they're doing. Will the ordinance address some of that? How do -- you know what I mean, it's -- is -- is that the teeth that the police department needs besides the, you know, required licensing?

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Our local ordinance is really more specifically in regard to the Department of Health and protecting our -- our --

SENATOR CASSANO: Yeah.

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: -- constituents.

I do have a letter, also -- and I'll submit both of these to the clerk -- that I -- if I could read just a little bit, from our -- our police sector, our -- our police captain who covers our sector.

He's saying: "As things are currently, we as police officers have little -- little or no ability to adequately enforce what little regulations there are on the books in order to monitor and regulate businesses that -- that this bill will affect. Without the ability to

regulate and enforce the goings on within these types of business establishments, we lose our ability to ensure a safer city for our residents."

So clearly what they're saying is that the -- the opportunity that they have to enforce is minimized by the level of infraction that can impose. And if you have multiple offenses, I believe you can then move forward to -- to try and, you know, shut the business down, where that is not necessarily the case now.

So as much as we know that this is a huge challenge, the police are asking for this help to be able to at least be able to -- to move forward and have some sort of a positive impact.

SENATOR CASSANO: Right.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

SUSAN T. BRANNELLY: Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: On my list I have a Laura Hurwitz next.

SENATOR CASSANO: And -- and while she's coming up, I just want to --

REP. GROGINS: Maxine Greenberg, and then --

SENATOR CASSANO: -- follow up -- yeah.

REP. GROGINS: -- Laura after Maxine.

SENATOR CASSANO: Okay.

REP. GROGINS: (Inaudible) Bridgeport One.

SENATOR CASSANO: All right. I'm -- I'm -- I know --

REP. GROGINS: Yeah, (inaudible).

SENATOR CASSANO: -- that Representative Grogins will join me. We -- we need to speak with the Commissioner of Public Health, who is opposed to this and says that it really is unenforceable, because I think we have some issue there.

REP. GROGINS: I -- I've actually been in touch with them and they have not returned my phone calls. So --

SENATOR CASSANO: Okay, but we'll do -- we'll do it.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Please state your name for the record.

MAXINE D. GREENBERG: Maxine Greenberg, from Bridgeport, live in Black -- Black Rock.

HB 5455

My husband and I moved to -- to Black Rock section of Bridgeport, 15 years ago, from Fairfield, and as long as we've been there, these massage parlors have, in fact, been a thorn in our sides. And I don't understand, in regard to the last question, why it has taken so many years for this to come forward and whether or not this bill is even strong enough -- I hope it is -- to begin to assist the police in implementing some change along the -- the avenue.

We're committed to working in the -- the city to build the city, and we would like to reclaim the neighborhood of Black Rock. The whole area

along Fairfield Avenue, there are a number of store fronts known as "massage parlors" that represent a deterrent to such change and -- and revitalization in our city.

Rumors persist about whether the women who work in these establishments are forced to do so; that is, that they're human trafficking. And, in addition, many of us question who is profiting from these businesses. I mean, I think that that becomes a very important question to look at is, you know, there's a tremendous amount of money involved here, and I wonder whether or not there's been some detriment to policing (inaudible).

Such sexually oriented businesses make statements about our priorities as a city, and their presence must be addressed and regulated. Please support those of us who are fighting to reclaim Bridgeport and make it a safe, pleasant, family oriented, and viable place to live. We've known about these places for years and years and years, and nothing has happened.

And I want to thank Representative Grogins for beginning to initiate this and work hard with our committee.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Maxine.

With regard to your comment about the length of time, this is the first time it's been brought to our attention.

MAXINE D. GREENBERG: (Inaudible.)

REP. GENTILE: And we thank Representative Grogins for bringing it to us too.

MAXINE D. GREENBERG: It's taken a long time and --  
thank you -- and this is step number one.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Laura Hurwitz. Good afternoon.

LAURA HURWITZ: Good afternoon.

My name is Laura Hurwitz, and I am a member of the Black Rock NRZ Board. I'm here on behalf of the Black Rock NRZ. You have a letter from our President, Joe Ianniello, in the record. And I just wanted to summarize a little bit.

So the Black Rock NRZ fully supports H.B. 5455. The NRZ, which is the Neighborhood Revitalization Zones, are -- are formed under a State of Connecticut statute, and they're designed to revitalize depressed areas. The Black Rock NRZ and our strategic plan was accepted by the State of Connecticut and approved by the city council, the Bridgeport City Council, in 2008.

Our strategic plan was put together through many public meetings, interviews, surveys, research, and data analysis. And one of the things that kept coming up to us in these, you know, when we were talking to the people of Black Rock, was the recommendation to eliminate inappropriate commercial uses. And our plan actually called out the massage parlors and the strip clubs that we have throughout our business corridor. The strategic plan lists this, the elimination of inappropriate commercial uses, as a major component to address in being able to revitalize Black Rock.

This bill, H.B. 5455, will provide the ability

to enforce the law on massage establishments to make sure that they don't evolve into inappropriate -- inappropriate or illegal businesses. And by doing so, it'd help us reach our revitalization goals, basically which is to promote economic development in art and cultural venues, to focus on our heritage, our historic heritage of Black Rock, and improving the quality of life for the community.

So thank you for your time. And I just want to, again, you know, say that the Black Rock NRZ is behind this.

REP. GENTILE: Laura, did -- did you submit written testimony to us? Okay; thank you.

Any questions?

Representative Grogins.

REP. GROGINS: I just want to thank -- thank you, Madam Chair -- I just want to thank Ms. Hurwitz, again, for coming up here, taking the day off and providing important testimony from this organization. Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

We have Nicole Arel. Good afternoon, Nicole.

NICOLE R.G. AREL: Good afternoon. I want to say thank you for the opportunity to speak to the committee.

HB 5455

My name is Nicole Arel, and I am a licensed massage therapist here in Connecticut, proudly No. 004433. And I did want to just address the question about massage, having heard everyone from Bridgeport talking about it. Using the word "massage" without a license is a Class C

misdemeanor; it is illegal in the State of Connecticut. And we are very proud to -- to have that on the books at this point.

I am an active member of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association. I am on the faculty at the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy. I teach both Acupressure and Massage Therapy 1, which is the inter-level Swedish Massage class that all students take in their studies.

I'm also a small business owner, and I have offices that I work out of in both Manchester and West Hartford. I do practice Thai Massage exclusively, so this bill certainly speaks to me -- thank you -- this bill certainly speaks to me and my profession. I am very proud of my field. I am proud of my education, and I am proud of the professionalism in the field that exists. I am definitely in support of Bill H.B. 5455.

I have studied Thai Massage, both throughout the United States and in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and I do continue my studies throughout the U.S., at present. What I teach, what I practice absolutely uses the systemic and scientific manipulation and treatment of the soft tissues of the body by the use of pressure, friction, percussion, vibration by manual means, range of motion, and nonspecific stretching; and that's directly from the Connecticut General Statutes to define "massage therapy," which I've referenced in my written testimony.

Nonlegitimate business persons have often used our industry to front for illegal business purposes. And including these Eastern modalities of body works, specifically Shiatsu,

Acupressure, and Thai Massage will help further protect the consumers, keep clarity and legitimacy in educating the public, and give further protection to those of us who do practice the healing, therapeutic arts legally, legitimately in the business world and in Connecticut.

Thank you.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you, Nicole.

A VOICE: Hmm.

REP. GENTILE: Thank you.

NICOLE R.G. AREL: Thank you, so much.

REP. GENTILE: Pamela Heller.

PAMELA A. HELLER: Good afternoon, Co-chairs Cassano, Gentile, and distinguished members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Pamela Heller, and I'm a foreclosure prevention attorney at the Connecticut Fair Housing Center. I'm here today in opposition to House Bill 5456, AN ACT CONCERNING DEFICIENCY JUDGMENTS IN TAX LIEN FORECLOSURES.

As an attorney who represents and speaks with hundreds of homeowners facing foreclosure, I'm concerned about the impact that this bill will have on some of my most vulnerable clients. The Connecticut Fair Housing Center is the only legal nonprofit providing representation and advocacy for homeowners facing foreclosure. Since 2010, we've reached homeowners in 159 of Connecticut's towns and cities, and in 2012

**JOINT  
STANDING  
COMMITTEE  
HEARINGS**

**PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT  
PART 4  
1024 - 1366**

**2012**

**HB 5455: An Act Concerning Penalties For and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.**

Dear Senator Steve Cassano, Representative Linda Gentile and all members of the Planning & Development Committee,

In my career of more than 28 years I have learned that if there is something going on that cannot be regulated or enforced, and it causes a disruption, interference or degradation to any part of the community, this quickly becomes a Quality of Life issue. Quality of Life issues generally ruin residential neighborhoods and negatively impact the business community, as well. When this happens, people tend to start to move out of those areas thereby negatively affecting the tax base of the municipality.

As things are currently, we as police officers have little or no ability to adequately enforce what little regulations there are on the books, in order to monitor and regulate businesses that this bill HB 5455 will affect. Without the ability to regulate and enforce the goings on within these types of business establishments we lose our ability to ensure a safer City for our residents, businesses, schools, churches, etc., thereby having no control over the Quality of Life that people that live, work, learn, pray, etc., should have within our City.

With no ability to monitor, regulate & enforce the business practices of these types of establishments, we cannot control what goes on near our schools, whereby young children walk past these businesses on a daily basis going to and from their neighborhood schools each day. And, we cannot establish a safe and inviting environment for other businesses to draw customers to go to, losing those potential customers and even possibly residents or business owners.

We believe if this bill HB 5455 is passed, it will establish a much better format for these types of businesses to operate under and give all municipalities, equally throughout the State, the ability to better regulate and enforce the rules that will oversee them. Having a State Law to work with establishes a standardized format that can address numerous issues that city ordinances cannot, that have little or no effect on these establishments, are different from town to town, and basically have no weight when it comes to enforcement.

The passing of this bill HB 5455, will give us (and all municipalities across the State) what is needed to help restore a better Quality of Life in our residential neighborhoods, school zones, religious and commercial areas.

We fully support and urge the passing of this bill.

We thank you for all the time and effort that you have put into this effort to help our police departments re-establish a higher quality of life in the towns & cities we work in.

Captain Brian McCarthy  
West Command  
Bridgeport Police Department  
300 Congress Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604

My name is Deby Van Ohlen and I am a Connecticut licensed massage therapist working in West Hartford. I co-own Nurturing Hands, LLC with Wendy Payton, also a licensed massage therapist. I am an active member of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association.

I am writing in support of Raised Bill No. 5455, An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments. The proposed changes:

- listing the employer as well as the practitioner;
- including shiatsu, acupressure and Thai massage in the definition of massage;
- legislating actions in case of violations and to investigate probable violations;

all strengthen the existing bill.

Why does the bill need to be strengthened? Unscrupulous individuals put the public at risk by employing unlicensed persons. Worse are the criminals who are using these loopholes as a front for human trafficking.

Three populations are at risk:

- The general public who thinks they are receiving health care services and instead are putting themselves at risk
- Legitimate practitioners who may be approached by individuals who think they are engaged in prostitution
- Persons who are being made to work in the awful world of human Trafficking.

Please vote in favor of these changes which will allow the Department of Public Health to follow its mission to protect and improve the health and safety of the people of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Deby Van Ohlen, LMT license #1389  
Nurturing Hands, LLC  
777 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119 860.570.0268

TO: Members of the Planning and Development Committee

FROM: Scott Raymond LMT  
American Massage Therapy Association  
Connecticut Chapter  
100 Market Square, Suite 2  
Newington CT 06111

**RE: HB 5455 AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS.**

Good Morning Ladies and Gentleman of the Planning and Development Committee, my name is Scott Raymond, I am a licensed massage therapist and a Thai Massage practitioner. I am the President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association, the owner of the Market Square Wellness Center in Newington, a continuing education instructor, and an educator with the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy in Newington.

It is my honor to write this on behalf of over 2200 Licensed Massage Therapists in Connecticut that are members of the American Massage Therapy Association. We speak in support of Bill No. 5455 ~ AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS.

The purpose of this bill is to add "shiatsu", "acupressure" and "Thai massage" to the list of services that may not be advertised without a license to engage in massage therapy in the state of CT; to provide that employers who employ unlicensed persons, or illegally licensed persons as massage therapists are guilty of a class C misdemeanor; and to require the Commissioner of Public Health and local health departments to investigate complaints that persons are engaging in the practice of massage therapy without a license, or an illegally obtained license within thirty days of receiving such complaint.

After attending meetings and hearings in Connecticut towns, it seems as if there is confusion in regards in how to approach the prosecution of individuals and businesses that violate Public Act 07-35. This is the bill that will help clarify that and empower the Department of Public Health on a state and local level to investigate offenders of Public Act 07-35. I have been informed of issues around public health, public safety, practitioner safety, and even worse, human trafficking. I have met with the Department of Public health, the Attorney General's office, and with many legislators.

- Some individuals are using the Healthcare Profession of Therapeutic Massage to hide sexually orientated businesses.
- Now, individuals have possibly learned how to illegally obtain licenses from the State of CT. When you research CT licensed massage therapists with

addresses in New York, there are exactly 500 with a only few from most towns listed, but when you look at the town of Flushing, and surrounding towns, there are well over 200...nearly half from one town alone. On the East Coast, the ethnic enclaves within the New York City borough of Queens such as Flushing and Jackson Heights have become major recruiting centers for traffickers, according to law enforcement officials and advocates.

- By adding the business owners to the penalty aspect of the Statutes, they would be charged with a class C misdemeanor for advertising massage illegally, and for merely employing uneducated, unethical, and illegal individuals that are endangering the general public. No need to "catch anyone in the act of massage" anymore.
- Shiatsu, acupressure, and Thai massage are Eastern Modalities of bodywork just as Swedish, deep tissue, and sports massage are Western Modalities of bodywork. Extensive training is required for all styles of massage either Eastern or Western. All styles of bodywork require communication, education, and most importantly physical and ethical safety.
- Quoted from the General Statutes, "Massage therapy" means the systematic and scientific manipulation and treatment of the soft tissues of the body, by use of pressure, friction, stroking, percussion, kneading, vibration by manual or mechanical means, range of motion and nonspecific stretching. Massage therapy may include the use of oil, ice, hot and cold packs; tub, shower, steam, dry heat, or cabinet baths, for the purpose of, but not limited to, maintaining good health and establishing and maintaining good physical and mental condition. Shiatsu, acupressure, and Thai massage MUST be added to the statute to keep the general public SAFE and the health care profession CLEAR that both eastern and western modalities of massage apply to the law in CT.
- The State of CT accepts only the National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCETMB) which INCLUDES eastern modalities. National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) is phasing out the National Exam for State Licensure to close the opportunity for uneducated individuals to take the exam. I have requested that the NCBTMB send the photo of the individual that has taken the NCETMB to the State of CT along with the applicants' scores to make it simple for the DPH to clarify that the individual applying for a license is the same person that took the exam. The DPH has also added language to the statute to make the schools more responsible, and not allow questionable school transcripts to be used for licensure.

If Bill 5455 is passed, it will protect public safety both physically and ethically. It will empower the Department of Public Health to put a stop to illegal individuals obtaining licenses and from unlicensed individuals from practicing in CT. It will clarify that both eastern and western styles of massage are considered "massage therapy" in the state of CT. It will allow the NCBTMB, the CT DPH, and the schools to work together and keep the highest standard of ethics and safety.

On behalf of the members of the American Massage Therapy Association I encourage you to support this bill.

Fran Ray  
P.O. Box 1064  
Fairfield, CT 06825

March 16, 2012

Planning and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
300 Capitol Avenue, Room 2100  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: HB5455 **AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE INVESTIGATION  
OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS**  
Language: Use of "Thai Yoga Massage," in lieu of "Thai Massage"

Dear Sir/Madam,

I see taking place in an increasing number of yoga studios in Fairfield County, whereby they are offering what really amounts to Thai Massage under the headings of *Thai Yoga Bodywork*, *Thai Yoga*, and *Thai Yoga Therapy*. These yoga studios are attaching the practice of Thai Massage to *Yoga*, calling it *Thai Yoga Bodywork*, *Thai Yoga*, or *Thai Yoga Therapy*, and creating a "backdoor" to bring in Thai Massage as an alternate revenue source, while circumventing the licensing requirements applicable to massage therapy. Even when reading their websites' descriptions of Thai Yoga, they themselves characterize Thai Yoga as massage.

To address this growing trend in yoga studios, I suggest the use of "*Thai Yoga Massage*" in lieu of "Thai Massage" in HB5455, to clarify "Thai Yoga" as massage.

I am a licensed massage therapist (CT Lic. #2446). I have specialized in Thai Massage since 1997. My practice is in lower Fairfield County. I am personally aware of 4 yoga studios in Fairfield County who currently offer Thai Yoga Massage by unlicensed persons. On their websites they use the various names; *Thai Yoga Bodywork*, *Thai Yoga* and *Thai Yoga Therapy*. They are:

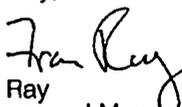
Blackbird Yoga, Georgetown, CT	Website: blackbirdyoga.com
Elements Yoga, Darien, CT	Website: www.elementsyoga.com
Yoga For Everybody, Fairfield, CT	Website: www.yoga4everybody.net
Kaia Yoga, Westport & Greenwich, CT	Website: kaiayoga.com

In December 2011, I filed complaints for several unlicensed persons practicing Thai Yoga Massage with the Connecticut Department of Public Health Practitioner Investigations Unit. They are currently being investigated.

Regardless of the name, the modality and training is the same. Thai Yoga Massage is an advanced massage modality that requires a high level of skill. It is a *deep massage* that includes rhythmic compression, kneading, stretching, and twisting of the body. A Thai Yoga massage therapist uses his/her thumbs, elbows, knees, and feet when he/she manipulates the Thai energy lines (sen) and stretches the body. Thai Yoga Massage is studied beyond the standard education needed to become a licensed massage therapist. A great deal of harm can be caused by unlicensed persons practicing Thai Yoga Massage on the public.

I thank you for your time. I believe it is imperative for public safety, that an employer be responsible and accountable to hire licensed massage therapists to perform all modalities of massage therapy.

Sincerely,

  
Fran Ray  
CT Licensed Massage Therapist #2446

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of HB5455.

I also want to express gratitude to all the AMTA representatives that worked together on this proposal.

My name is Rick Haesche. I am a licensed massage therapist. I grew up in Colchester and currently live in Chaplin with my wife, Tina Latraverse Haesche who is also a massage therapist, and our two daughters. I have 17 years of experience in the field of massage therapy, 7 of which were as Director of Operations at the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy. I am a practitioner, instructor and student of Traditional Thai Massage and I am the director of the bodymind center for thai massage in Newington CT. My wife and I have made a life from bodywork.

I graduated from a 600 hour Massage Therapy program and have put in another 400 hours in Continuing Education in Thai Massage. Thai Massage is an eastern bodywork modality that has been gaining in popularity in the west since the 1980's. It is an advanced form of massage that is performed fully clothed on a mat on the floor that is comprised of a set of complex sequential movements and techniques.

I have been around for a long time and I have seen how Thai Massage is frequently misrepresented as a kind of Therapeutic Yoga where one can take a couple of workshops and then offer private, paid sessions to the public with out further education or license. They call it Thai Yoga or Thai Yoga Massage. I know that there are scores of unlicensed people performing Thai Massage, and I understand that there are recent complaints on file with the Department regarding Thai Yoga training classes in Fairfield County.

My concern is that there are techniques and postures used in Thai Massage/Thai Yoga that could cause serious injury to the receiver if the practitioner's alignment, technique, and body mechanics are not properly applied. Further, the practitioner should have knowledge of contraindications and pathologies, as well as an understanding of the dynamics of working closely with another human being.

I was therefore relieved to see that that HB 5455 amends language to include "Shiatsu", "Acupressure", and "Thai Massage". This is a great step in further defining the field of massage and bodywork.

I support this bill as it is written but would request the addition of the terms: "**THAI YOGA**" and "**THAI YOGA MASSAGE**" because I believe that this would clarify the difference between what one can offer the public after a commitment to years of practice and education, and what one presents to the public after a couple of weekends.

Thank you.



Rick Haesche, Bodymind Center for Thai Massage  
95 Kitts Lane, Newington, CT 06111  
860.913.7500 [rick@bodymindthai.com](mailto:rick@bodymindthai.com)

March 16, 2012

Testimony In Support of HB-5455

Thank you, Representative Gentile and Senator Cassano and all of the members of the Planning and Development committee for allowing me to speak in support of House Bill 5455, An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

I am a resident of the Black Rock section of Bridgeport, Representative Grogin's district. My husband and I bought our house in this seaside neighborhood 7 years ago because we loved the area. We wanted to start a family and understood the local elementary schools were excellent.

Fast forward to present day, and we are proud parents of a five year old and a three year old. And it is on their behalf, and on behalf of all of the children and families in the neighborhood and really, throughout Bridgeport, that I stand before you to urge the passing of this bill.

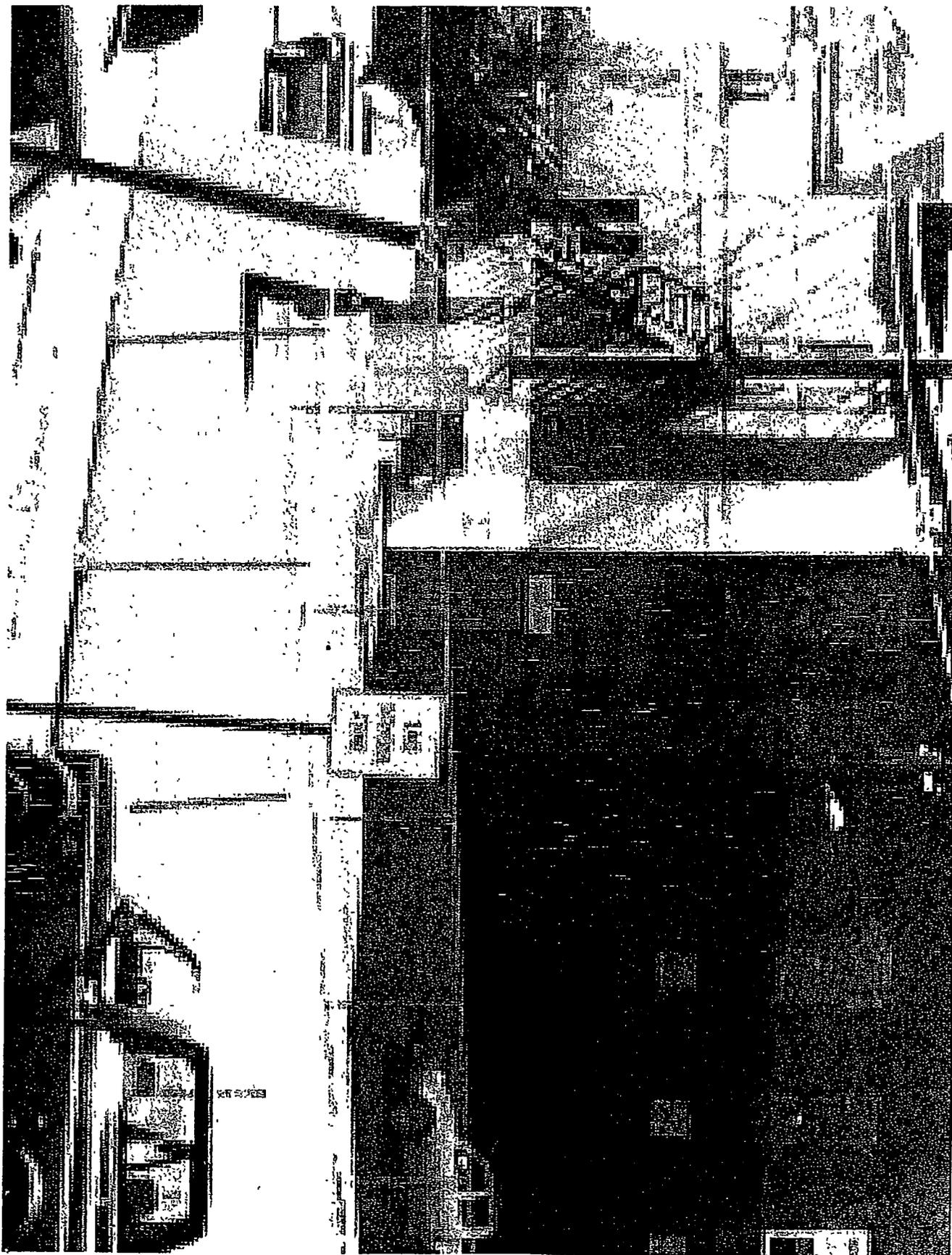
One of the 4 massage parlors in Black Rock sits about 20 yards away from the playground of my Kindergarten's school. The fact that an establishment participating in prostitution can be seen by the children in the playground and that the customers and employees of the same business similarly have eyes on the playground is deeply disturbing to me. I am very concerned that illegal and lewd behavior is occurring in a systematic and routine way in such close proximity to where hundreds of children are in direct line of vision, one whom is my own.

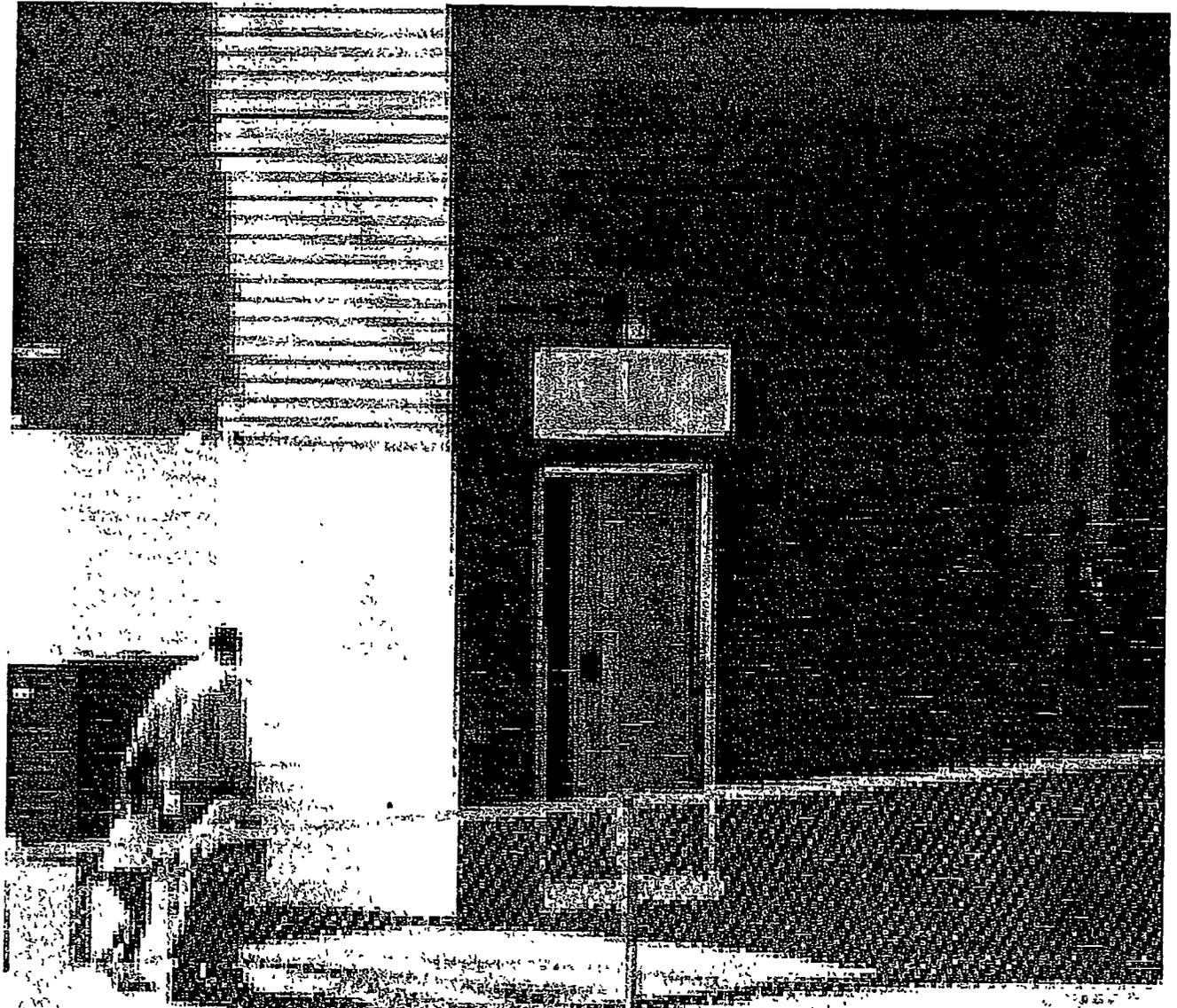
From a business perspective, these "spas" operate on the main thoroughfare through our community. I truly believe their presence discourages the kinds of shops and businesses that, as a community, would be welcome additions to the legitimate businesses already in place on the Avenue.

I respectfully submit to you that, for the reasons I've mentioned above, as well as those listed by my neighbors here with me, you enact this legislation so that these businesses can be regulated, monitored and shut down, if need be. Illegal Massage Establishments are a significant problem in our residential neighborhood and have a tremendously negative effect on our community and our businesses.

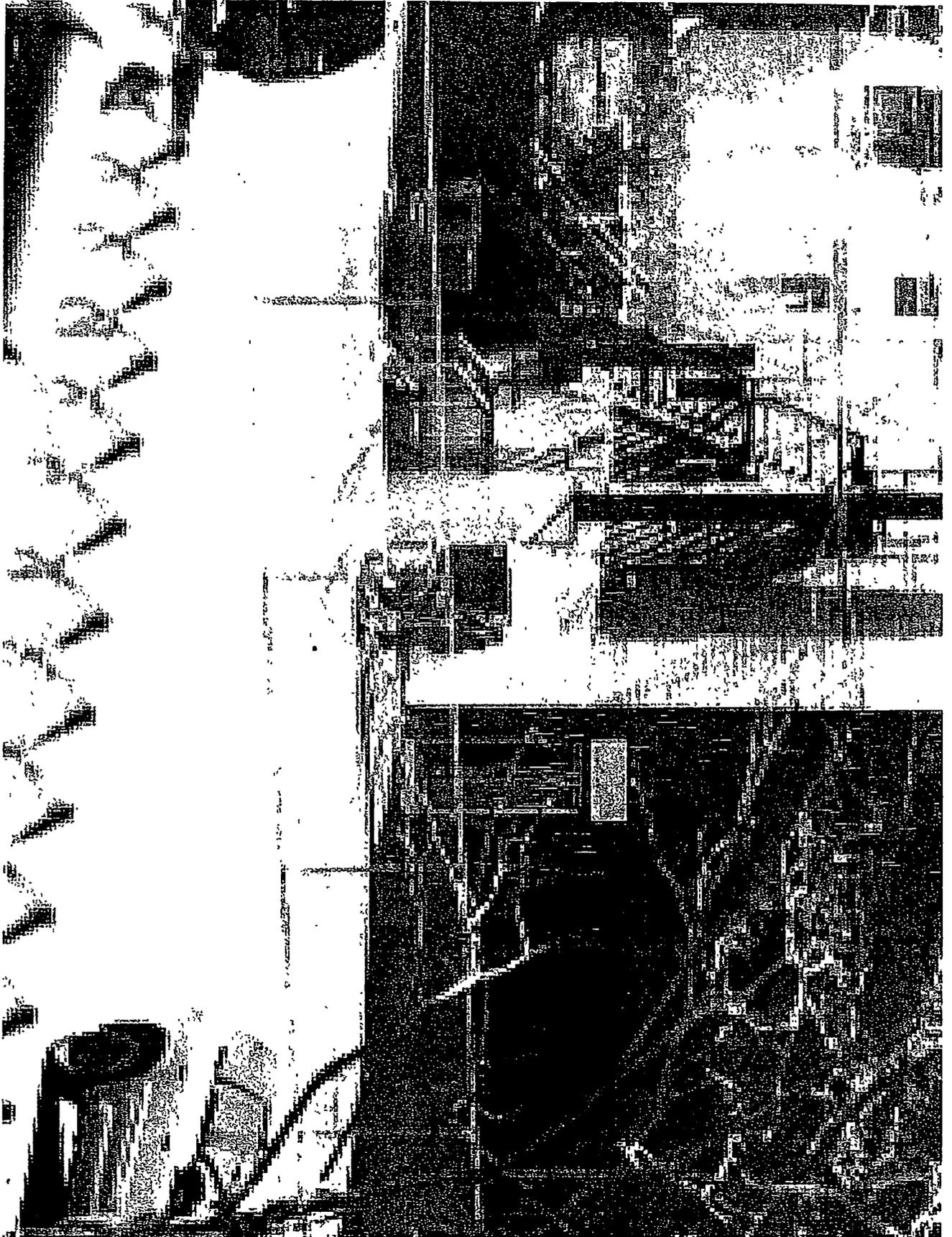
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joy Cline Cadwallader  
261 Grovers Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

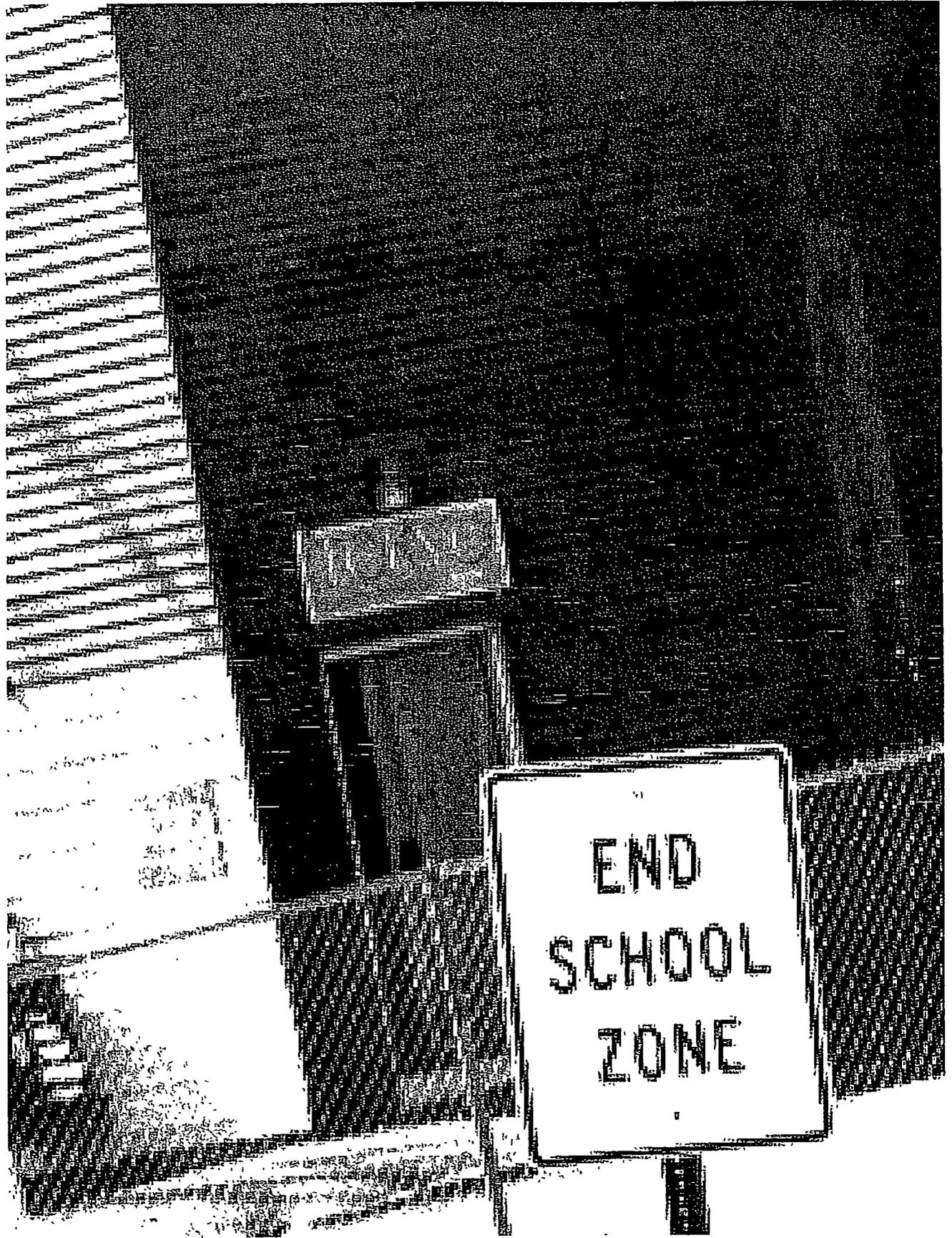




END  
SCHOOL  
ZONE







END  
SCHOOL  
ZONE

**Testimony In Support of HB-5455**

Thank you, Representative Gentile and Senator Cassano and all of the members of the Planning and Development committee for allowing me to speak in support of House Bill 5455, An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

I am a resident of Black Rock, and I have a young child who lives in the neighborhood of Black Rock in the City of Bridgeport. Throughout the City of Bridgeport there are nine operating "spas," four of which are located in the Black Rock business corridor along Fairfield Avenue and three of which are on the footpath(s) of young children walking to and from school. The four "spas" in Black Rock are named: the Tokyo Spa at 2925 Fairfield Avenue, Chateau Health Spa at 2662 Fairfield Avenue, Mia Spa at 2742 Fairfield Avenue and The Hawali Spa at 3486 Fairfield Avenue. The Tokyo Spa is in plain sight of the playgrounds of two elementary schools, The Black Rock Elementary School and St. Anns (St. Ann's extends through the eighth grade). The Chateau and Mia Spas, are also in close proximity to these schools and are along the walking paths of school-aged children; and are also in close proximity to our community library (The Black Rock Library), residential areas, restaurants and shops.

In our research, we have found several websites where men discuss their experiences with the women at these "spas." The links where we have found this information are as follow:

[http://www.eroticmp.com/Tokyo-Spa-Bridgeport-Connecticut.htm?task=review-read&id\\_review=4873](http://www.eroticmp.com/Tokyo-Spa-Bridgeport-Connecticut.htm?task=review-read&id_review=4873)  
<http://www.eroticmp.com/Tokyo-Spa-Bridgeport-Connecticut.htm>  
<http://www.worldsexguide.org/bridgeport.txt.html>  
<http://www.usasexguide.info/forum/archive/index.php/t-3512-p-5.html>

In reading the information in these links you will find that men rate their "spa" experience in terms of a sexual experience, and not a clinical one. For instance, in the link: [www.worldsexguide.org](http://www.worldsexguide.org), one man explicitly describes his sexual experience at the Chateau Health Spa, located at 2662 Fairfield Avenue. He writes about the verbal rates given to him for each sexual act once he was in the massage room, by the woman who worked there.

In addition to our children, our residential community, and our business community as a whole, we cannot ignore that these business also create an environment for human trafficking and the sex-slave trade. We have all heard the stories of abduction, trickery and cruelty that are imposed on women and children who are forced into a life of sexual-servitude. Unless we take a stand and stop allowing these businesses to flourish in our Cities, Towns, States, and Country, we will always be creating the "demand" that keeps the vicious cycle going. If we do not take a strong stand against these businesses - if we allow them to stay in our neighborhoods, then we as the adults, and the watchers-and-keepers of what is right and what is wrong, are sending a very strong message to our children that this was OK on our watch. This is not OK. We need to be more watchful and more caring of human life and the environments in which we all live together.

Because of evasiveness and secrecy of these businesses, our law enforcements do not have the ability to catch people in sexual acts and prosecute accordingly. We need the intervention of the State Department of Public Health to direct and assist our Local Health Department in regulating these illegitimate businesses. As a resident of Bridgeport, in Representative Grogn's Black Rock district, I urge for the passage of HB5455.

I sincerely thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Barnes, Bridgeport, CT

March 16, 2012

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB-5455

Thank you, Representative Gentile and Senator Cassano and all of the members of the Planning and Development committee for allowing me to speak in support of House Bill 5455, An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

To allow businesses which advertise themselves as legitimate massage parlors when everyone, including teenagers, know that they are, in fact, the sex businesses undermines respect for the law. These businesses operate in the open, flaunting either the law itself and/or showing that there are ways to find loopholes in the laws to operate an illegal activity. Others have testified how these businesses degrade our communities and depress our property values and I agree that both of these arguments are valid. As a political science professor I am aware of the data that indicates the degree of mistrust of the government that exists with the public. Studies have shown that nothing breeds this mistrust more than when the public believes some are above the law. These sex businesses scream to the public that the government is turning a blind to prostitution and many believe possibly forcing women to work in these establishments against their will.

HB5455 is not a perfect bill. I have concern that it can be evaded by calling the business by some name that does not violate the letter of the law. The bill, however, is an excellent first step in that gives authorities a clear weapon to penalize these establishments. The penalty is appropriate to the offense and no legitimate massage therapist could object to this bill.

While we must always be wary of over legislating personal behavior I urge the passage of HB5455 because this is an area where the good of the community so outweighs as Justice Brandels said, "The right to be left alone".

Donald Greenberg

Associate Professor of Politics

Fairfield University

265 Balmforth St

Bridgeport, CT. 06605

## Testimony in Support of HB-5455

Representative Gentile, Senator Cassano, members of the Planning and Development committee, thank you for allowing me to speak to you in favor of HB5455, an Act Concerning Penalties for, and the Investigation of, the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

I am here to ask you to help our officials to improve Bridgeport by getting rid of illegal massage parlors. My husband was born and raised in Bridgeport and lived there when it was a booming city. After 40 years on Long Island, we are back here because the Black Rock section of Bridgeport is a great place to live and because our daughter and her family are here. The presence of so-called "massage parlors", which are actually sexually oriented businesses, has a huge negative impact on our City. These spas are a deterrent to business owners and families who might otherwise consider moving to our neighborhood.

It is very sad to see what has become of Bridgeport. Efforts are being made to revitalize the city. It certainly needs all the help it can get. I am urging you to help those of us who want to see a better Bridgeport to pass HB5455 so the Commissioner of Public Health will have the power to uphold the law and get rid of these sexually oriented massage parlors. Thank you.

Joan Lindquist  
Bridgeport, CT

Testimony in Support of HB-5455

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I WANT TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR BEING WILLING TO HEAR OUR CONCERNS AND FOR THEIR AVAILABILITY IN ADDRESSING AN ISSUE THAT HAS BEEN OF GREAT CONCERN TO MANY OF THE CITIZENS OF BRIDGEPORT. I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF HB5455K, AN ACT CONCERNING PENALTIES FOR AND THE INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF ILLEGAL MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE ISSUE OF THE MASSAGE PARLORS IS ONE THAT HAS BEEN A THORN IN MY SIDE SINCE WE MOVED TO THE BLACK ROCK SECTION OF BRIDGEPORT FROM FAIRFIELD 15 YEARS AGO. MANY OF US WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE CITY HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO RECLAIM THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BLACK ROCK, WHICH TO US IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE. THE NUMBER OF STOREFRONTS ALONG FAIRFIELD AVENUE, KNOWN AS MASSAGE PARLORS. WHICH HAVE BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR YEARS, IS VERY DISCONCERTING.

RUMORS PERSIST ABOUT WHETHER THE WOMEN WHO "WORK" IN THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE FORCED TO DO SO. IN ADDITION MANY OF US QUESTION WHO IS PROFITING FROM THESE BUSINESSES.

SUCH SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES MAKE STATEMENTS ABOUT OUR PRIORITIES AS A CITY AND THEIR PRESENCE MUST BE ADDRESSED AND REGULATED. PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE OF US WHO ARE FIGHTING TO RECLAIM BRIDGEPORT AND MAKE IT A SAFE, PLEASANT, FAMILY ORIENTED, AND VIABLE PLACE TO LIVE.

SINCERELY,

MAXINE D GREENBERG, MSW, LCSW

265 BALMFORTH ST

BRIDGEPORT, 06605

March 16 2012

**Support Statement for House Bill 5455**

My name is Nicole Arel and I have been a Licensed Massage Therapist (004433) in CT since February 2006. I teach both Massage Therapy 1 and Acupressure at the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy and my practice is exclusively Traditional Thai Massage.

I am in full support of House Bill 5455. What I teach, and what I do, in terms of both Acupressure and Thai Massage, includes 'the systematic and scientific manipulation and treatment of the soft tissues of the body, by use of pressure, friction, ... percussion, ... vibration by manual ... means, range of motion and nonspecific stretching.' This is taken directly from the Connecticut General Statutes to define Massage Therapy. Therefore, I feel that including these modalities will help to protect the public and consumers as they are looking for new massage modalities and may not know the correct questions to ask a potential massage therapist.

Nicole RG Arel  
Essential Touch LLC  
PO Box 8174  
Manchester, CT 06042  
[etllc@cox.net](mailto:etllc@cox.net)  
860/268-3498

**Reference:**

**CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES  
Chapter 384a  
Massage Therapists**

**Sec. 20-206a. Definitions.** As used in subsection (c) of section 19a-14 and sections 20-206a to 20-206f, inclusive, and Section 3 of Public Act 07-35:

- (a) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.
- (b) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.
- (c) "Massage therapist" means a person who has been licensed to practice massage therapy under the provisions of sections 20-206a to 20-206f, inclusive.
- (d) "Massage therapy" means the systematic and scientific manipulation and treatment of the soft tissues of the body, by use of pressure, friction, stroking, percussion, kneading, vibration by manual or mechanical means, range of motion and nonspecific stretching. Massage therapy may include the use of oil, ice, hot and cold packs, tub, shower, steam, dry heat, or cabinet baths, for the purpose of, but not limited to, maintaining good health and establishing and maintaining good physical and mental condition.  
Massage therapy does not encompass diagnosis, the prescribing of drugs or medicines, spinal or other joint manipulations, nor any service or procedure for which a license to practice medicine, chiropractic, natureopathy, physical therapy, or podiatry is required by law.



JOSEPH L. GAUDETT, JR.  
Chief of Police

*City of Bridgeport*  
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF**

300 Congress Street • Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604 • (203) 581-5111 • Fax (203) 576-8130

March 15, 2012

Representative Linda Gentile  
Senator Steve Cassano  
Planning and Development Committee

Re. HB 5455, "An Act Concerning Penalties For and the Investigations of the Operallon of Illegal  
Massage Establishments".

Dear Representative Gentile and Senator Cassano;

As Chief of the Bridgeport Police Department, I am writing this letter in support of Representative Auden  
Grogins' HB 5455 bill

This bill will provide the ability for the Bridgeport Police Department to enforce the law on massage  
establishments to ensure they do not evolve into inappropriate or illegal businesses

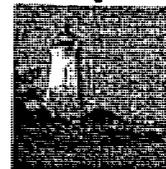
The bill will also enable the police department to focus on promoting and improving the quality of life for  
the community

Again, I would like to reiterate my full support for HB 5455 and urge you to pass the bill so that we can  
continue our efforts to revitalize Black Rock and keep our Community safe.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Gaudett, Jr.  
Chief of Police, Bridgeport, CT

Black Rock  
NRZ, Inc.



RE: HB 5455, "An Act Concerning Penalties For and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments"

March 15, 2012

Dear Members of the Planning and Development Committee:

The Bridgeport Black Rock NRZ enthusiastically supports Representative Auden Grogins' HB 5455 bill and urges the passage of this bill.

NRZs (Neighborhood Revitalization Zones) are formed under a State of Connecticut statute and are designed to revitalize depressed areas. The Black Rock NRZ process began in May 2007 and their Strategic Plan was accepted by the State of Connecticut and approved by the Bridgeport City Council in August 2008. The Strategic Plan was developed through numerous public meetings, interviews, surveys, research, and data analysis.

One of the major community recommendations which was heard multiple times is to, "Eliminate Inappropriate Commercial Uses". (The plan specifically refers to massage parlors and strip clubs). The Strategic Plan lists this as a major component to address in creating a successful revitalization strategy for Black Rock.

HB 5455 will provide the ability to enforce the law on massage establishments to ensure they do not evolve into inappropriate or illegal businesses. Eliminating inappropriate commercial uses will help us reach our revitalization goals; namely, to promote economic development and art and cultural venues that focus on the historic heritage of Black Rock, thereby improving the quality of life for the community.

Finally, I'd like to reiterate our support for HB 5455 and urge you to pass it.

Thank you for your work on this issue that help revitalize Connecticut's urban areas.

Respectfully yours,

  
Joseph W. Ianniello  
President, Black Rock NRZ

Mailing address:  
128 Balmforth Street  
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605

## Testimony in Support of HB-5455

Representative Gentile, Senator Cassano, members of the Planning and Development committee, thank you for allowing me to speak to you in favor of HB5455, an Act Concerning Penalties for, and the Investigation of, the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

I am here to ask you to help our officials to improve Bridgeport by getting rid of illegal massage parlors. My husband was born and raised in Bridgeport and lived there when it was a booming city. After 40 years on Long Island, we are back here because the Black Rock section of Bridgeport is a great place to live and because our daughter and her family are here. The presence of so-called "massage parlors", which are actually sexually oriented businesses, has a huge negative impact on our City. These spas are a deterrent to business owners and families who might otherwise consider moving to our neighborhood.

It is very sad to see what has become of Bridgeport. Efforts are being made to revitalize the city. It certainly needs all the help it can get. I am urging you to help those of us who want to see a better Bridgeport to pass HB5455 so the Commissioner of Public Health will have the power to uphold the law and get rid of these sexually oriented massage parlors. Thank you.

Joan Lindquist  
Bridgeport, CT

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 5455: An Act Concerning Penalties For and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.**

Dear Connecticut General Assembly,

I am a parent, business owner and home owner in the Black Rock Section of Bridgeport. Everyday I pass 3 "massage parlors" with my 5 yr old on her way to school. Everyday I hope my daughter doesn't ask me what they are.

Everyday I park in a municipal lot that faces the back entrance of the "massage parlor". Everyday I see clients entering through this door and not the front. Everyday I wish that this business was a clothing store, sandwich shop, book store.... a legitimate business that would add to the charm of this lovely neighborhood.

I once asked a beat cop why are the massage parlors able to stay open and operating? His answer was that they never cause any problems like the bars do. Is this a reason to ignore what we all know as an illegal business in operation?

We hear a lot about the revitalization of our city. I took a chance, I opened a business here and in the 5 years at this location, nothing has been done to change the fact that there are active houses of prostitution/massage parlors in operation. I have had potential clients refuse to come to my location because they are uncomfortable with the fact that these businesses are in operation across the street. We will not revitalize our cities if no one chooses to make things right and lawful.

Please pass HB5455, An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments.

We need our lawmakers to make a difference in the lives of our children, neighborhood and local economy.

Sincerely, Laura Pennock

Laura Pennock  
[blackrockpillates@gmail.com](mailto:blackrockpillates@gmail.com)  
2889 Fairfield Ave, Bridgeport, CT 06605



State of Connecticut  
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 STATE CAPITOL  
 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE LINDA A. ORANGE  
 DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
 48<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
 ROOM 4109  
 HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

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 FAX: 860-240-0208  
 E-MAIL: Linda.Orange@cga.ct.gov

MEMBER  
 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
 LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
 PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Testimony for March 16, 2012  
 Planning & Development Committee  
 House Bill 5455

*AAC Penalties For And The Investigation Of The Operation Of Illegal Massage Establishments*

To The Distinguished Co-Chairs and Members,

Thank you for allowing me to testify on the merits of HB-5455.

The Massage Therapists Association approached me with their concerns this year. We met with Commissioner Mullen and Attorney General Jepson on this matter to seek their input as well. The Association has noticed a weakness in the licensure system, whereby aspiring practitioners may be licensed through the Department of Public Health without having a demonstrated ability to take the examination offered by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. This leads the Association to the conclusion there are one or more "diploma mills" in operation outside of Connecticut's borders. The Board's list of questionable schools has produced "graduates" opening businesses in Connecticut. Some of these people have either been arrested for prostitution or have been observed engaging in business routines that lead Association officials to draw the same conclusion about the nature of their practice. The implications for either prostitution or human trafficking were compelling reasons for this to be brought before me.

The Department of Public Health is tasked with licensing a broad diversity of professions, and the resources are not always in place to facilitate easy cross-referencing of qualifications. The changes in this bill should clarify the oversight process, helping to prevent the degradation of this trade.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rep. Linda Orange  
 Deputy Speaker of the House



State of Connecticut  
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 STATE CAPITOL  
 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JACK F. HENNESSY  
 ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER  
 ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 5002  
 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: 860-240-8585  
 TOLL FREE 1-800-842-8287  
 E-MAIL Jack.Hennessy@cga.ct.gov

CHAIR  
 SELECT COMMITTEE OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

MEMBER  
 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
 FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

Testimony in support of Raised Bill No. 5545, LCO No. 1880 HB 5455  
 An Act Concerning Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage  
 Establishments.  
 Planning and Development Committee  
 Public Hearing 03.16.12  
 Submitted By: State Representative Jack Hennessy

To Senator Cassano, Representative Gentile and members of the Planning and Development  
 Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Raised Bill No. 5545, An Act concerning  
 Penalties for and the Investigation of the Operation of Illegal Massage Establishments. My name is  
 Representative Jack Hennessy and I am a licensed massage therapist. I spent years of study at the  
 Connecticut School of Massage Therapy and spent many thousands of dollars to get the right to  
 practice massage therapy. I do not appreciate the term and profession being tarnished by anyone that  
 misrepresents themselves as massage therapists. I was very happy to have been instrumental in  
 passage in 2006 of language outlawing the use of terms indicating any practice of massage. Hence,  
 there are no more "massage parlors". But the work continues. Illicit sex rings now use the terms  
 "Shiatsu", "acupressure" and "Thai massage" to hide under. This needs to be stopped.

The inclusion of making it illegal for employers to hire persons not licensed with the Connecticut  
 Health Department, making it a class C misdemeanor, is a natural and necessary progression as we  
 try and route out these criminals.

I thank the committee for raising this bill and I hope it gets the support it deserves and gets  
 passed into law.

Thank you for your time, attention, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Representative Jack Hennessy



**Connecticut  
Fair Housing Center**

**TESTIMONY OF ATTY. PAMELA HELLER IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 5456:  
AN ACT CONCERNING DEFICIENCY JUDGMENTS IN TAX LIEN FORECLOSURES**

Good Morning, Co-Chairs Cassano and Gentile, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Pamela Heller, and I'm a foreclosure prevention attorney for the Connecticut Fair Housing Center. I am here today in opposition to House Bill No. 5456: AN ACT CONCERNING DEFICIENCY JUDGMENTS IN TAX LIEN FORECLOSURES. As an attorney who represents and speaks to hundreds of homeowners facing foreclosure, I am concerned about the impact this bill would have on my most vulnerable clients.

The Connecticut Fair Housing Center is the only nonprofit in Connecticut providing representation and advocacy for homeowners facing foreclosure. Through intakes and clinics, we have reached homeowners in 159 towns since 2010, and have spoken with more than 500 people facing foreclosure in 2012 alone. We continue to see a crisis: one in 13 Connecticut homeowners with a mortgage is at least 90 days behind, and we won't see the midpoint of the foreclosure crisis until later this year.

Although the majority of our work involves mortgage foreclosure cases, we speak to many homeowners facing tax lien foreclosure. Inevitably, these callers are some of our state's most vulnerable citizens, including the elderly and those suffering from permanent reductions in income due to long term unemployment or disability. Folks living in the most impoverished areas, places that also typically have high tax burdens, are most likely to face a deficiency judgment under this proposed change to the law.

The current law does not allow deficiency judgments in municipal tax lien foreclosure cases. If any debt is still owed after the foreclosure, the municipality would need to bring a separate action against the former homeowner. We do not know how often these types of actions are brought, but because most municipalities would bring a foreclosure action long before the taxes owed exceed the value of the property, we cannot believe that requiring a separate action for the collection poses a tremendous burden on our towns and cities.

**S - 646**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2012**

**VOL. 55  
PART 11  
3330 – 3654**

jf/pat/med/gbr  
SENATE

7  
May 7, 2012

place that item on the Foot of the Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, Calendar Page 37, Calendar 328, Senate Bill 379 is marked go.

Madam President, Calendar Page 38, Calendar 348, Senate Bill 291 marked Go.

Madam President, Calendar Page 38, Calendar 399, House Bill Number 5455, Madam President, move to place that item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

So ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. Continuing Calendar Page 38, Calendar 412, Senate Bill 354 is marked go.

And that concludes our markings at this time. We'll have additional markings, Madam President somewhat later on and perhaps some additions to the Consent Calendar as well.

And if the Clerk would begin by calling the two matters under Executive and Legislative Nominations on Calendar Page 2.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On Page 2, Calendar 494, House Joint Resolution Number 83 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ARTHUR H. HOUSE OF SIMSBURY TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY. Favorable Report of the Committee on Executive and Legislative

**S - 647**

**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

**PROCEEDINGS  
2012**

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PART 12  
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May 7, 2012

Consent calendar, on page 1, Calendar 491, House Joint Resolution 39; also on page 1, Calendar 492, House Joint Resolution Number 40; on page 2, Calendar Number 493, House Joint Resolution 51. On page 2, Calendar Number 494, House Joint Resolution Number 83; page 38, Calendar 399, House Bill 5455; on page 2, Calendar Number 495, House Joint Resolution Number 84; on page 10, Calendar Number 380, Senate Bill 311; on page 32, Calendar Number 58, Senate Bill Number 220; on page 32, Calendar Number 79, Senate Bill 29; on page 38, Calendar 348, Senate Bill 291; on page 35, Calendar Number 234, Number -- Bill Number 436; and on page 3, Calendar Number 131, Senate Bill Number 353.

(SB 335)

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

The machine will be open.

Please announce the pendency for a roll call vote.

THE CLERK:

An immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the Senate. All senators please return to the Chamber.  
An immediate roll call vote has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gomes.

Have all members voted?

If all members have voted, if all members have voted, please check the board to make sure your vote is accurately recorded.

If all members have voted, the machine will be closed, and the Clerk will take the tally.

THE CLERK:

On the Consent Calendar,

Total Number Voting

35

jf/pat/med/gbr  
SENATE

301  
May 7, 2012

Necessary for Passage	18
Those Voting Yea	35
Those Voting Nay	0
Those Absent and Not Voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The consent calendar passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I would move that all items acted upon thus far today requiring additional action by the House of Representatives be immediately transmitted to the House.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, would yield for any announcements or points of personal privilege before calling for a -- a recess for a Democratic caucus.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Senator Looney.

Are there any announcements or points of personal privilege? Announcements or points of personal privilege?

If not, Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, would move the Senate stand in recess