



377 Research Parkway
Meriden, CT 06450-7160
203-238-1297

TESTIMONY RE: PROPOSED S.B. NO. 799 AN ACT CONCERNING A NURSING
FACULTY STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee Hearing
February 15, 2007

Good morning Senator Hartley, Representative Willis and members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA), the professional organization for registered nurses in Connecticut.. I am Dr. Mary Jane Williams, past-president of the Connecticut Nurses' Association, current chairperson of its Government Relations Committee and professor and chair of nursing at the University of Hartford. I have practiced nursing for over 40 years and have been educating nurses in Connecticut for 35 years. I am providing testimony in opposition of S.B. NO. 799 AN ACT CONCERNING A NURSING FACULTY STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

This bill does not support the priorities that have been identified by Connecticut Nurses' Association with leadership from the Deans and Directors Council of the Connecticut League for Nursing, nurse executives in acute care hospitals and representatives from other nursing organizations. The recommendation to increase faculty is through scholarships and loans for service and is part of a series of initiatives to address the nursing workforce over time and with appropriate infrastructure. This concept is part of H.B. No. 7102 An Act Adopting the Recommendations of the Connecticut Allied Health Workforce Policy Board. It is recommended that all related bills be consolidated into the recommendations of the Connecticut Allied Health Workforce Boards.

Thank you for considering our concerns and recommendations.