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Testimony in support of:

HB 5001: An Act Supporting Connecticut Seniors And The Improvement Of Nursing And Home-Based Care

Senator Hochadel, Representative Garibay, Senator Seminara, Representative Bolinsky and members of the Aging Committee. Thank you for raising HB 5001.

Last year, my office convened a “Healthcare Cabinet,” which brought key policymakers, stakeholders, practitioners, and advocates together to discuss healthcare challenges facing various demographic populations across Connecticut and propose ways to address them. The cabinet was made up of subcommittees based on those population groups sought solutions to these challenges, which include potential legislation or restructuring of current efforts.

The workforce subcommittee examined issues around recruitment and retention within our healthcare workforce and identified ways our state can be more competitive when it comes to recruiting additional or younger workers to our state and finding ways to ensure healthcare center retain them for the long term. One of the issues the workforce subcommittee raised was a legislative fix that would expand the locations where direct care hires in the long-term care sector, which include nursing home, assisted living, and a home healthcare can have their digital fingerprints taken for the purpose of the mandatory state-run background check.

Currently, the digital fingerprints can only be taken at one of the state police barracks and oftentimes, the hours are limited, due to staffing issues at these locations and not cohesive with hospital work schedules. Section 8 of this bill aims to addresses this issue by streamlining the process while remaining efficient.

I urge the committee to pass this bill because it will make this important process easier by allowing local police or private vendors to obtain digital fingerprints. The result of passing this legislation would improve and streamline the process, without forcing workers to take time off or rearrange their work schedule.

All the best,



Sean Scanlon
State Comptroller