Testifiers Flock to Capitol to Stop "Aid in Dying" Bill HB 5417 An Act Concerning End-of-Life Care

On March 20, the CT Legislative Public Health Committee held a public hearing to listen to the public’s opinion regarding HB 5417: An Act Concerning End-of-Life Care which would allow a physician to prescribe a lethal dose of medication(s) to a terminally ill patient, who would then self-administer the medication.

The Committee heard from nearly 75 people that evening and received nearly 200 written testimonies, some in support but predominantly most in opposition. Franciscan Home Care and Hospice (Sister Suzanne Gross, Sister Catherine Mary Clarke and Volunteer Francis Barillaro) along with Tracy Wodatch, VP of Clinical and Regulatory Services at the Association were among the public testifiers in opposition of the bill yet in strong support of the positive end-of-life options available through good hospice care.

By the end of last week, the Public Health Committee decided not to vote the bill forward out of their Committee, meaning the bill is "dead" and there will be no further action on this issue this legislative session.

Click below to view the testimonies submitted from the Association and our members.

Barillaro
Borrelli
Clarke
Gross
Wodatch

May 10: CT Home Health and Hospice Financial Managers Summit

Billy Simione and Rich Corcoran are teaming up to
deliver this "must attend" Summit for Connecticut home health and hospice agency owners, CEOs, CFOs, Administrators and compliance professions. Attend as a leadership team and receive a deep discount on your group registration!

This is the Association's premier Summit to gain understanding of strategies for improving your agency's financial performance while receiving insight into the latest federal and state healthcare regulatory changes that will impact your agency now and into 2020.

- Understand the federal financial payment reform landscape, stay ahead of industry changes to compete, and successfully manage cash flow in new reimbursement arrangements including value-based purchasing.
- Calculate your gross margin by payer, discipline and program through solid revenue cycle management.
- Understand the relationship between productivity and break-even.
- Discover the secrets financial managers use to remain solvent during challenging times.

Register Here

Franciscan Ever There Care Opens Waterbury Office

Franciscan Ever There Care, a nonprofit, faith-based home healthcare agency, marked the grand opening of its Waterbury office in Suite 1N at 411 Highland Ave. on Friday, March 23.

CMS Selects Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County for Hospice Pilot

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County was selected as one of only nine hospices across the country by The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to participate in a six-week pilot test called the Hospice Evaluation & Assessment Reporting Tool (HEART).

According to Christine Pfeffer, Hospice Director for Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County, "CMS contracted with RTI International to develop the HEART Pilot to provide insight
into the quality of care provided by hospice agencies, as well as a comprehensive understanding of patient needs and service delivery for hospice patients." HEART assessed items that are critical for high-quality patient care, including helping hospice providers work with patients and families to establish goals of care consistent with the individual's values.
The region’s largest industry event is headed to coastal Maine this April. Join colleagues for networking as you peruse cutting edge products and services at the annual Trade Show. Gain insight and ideas from national speakers with intensives focused on wound care, quality measures, technology, finance, palliative care, human resources, marketing, regulatory changes and more. This is THE conference to attend. For more information visit http://nehc.com.

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