

Dear CT State Senators and CT State Representatives of the Public Health Committee,

Thank you for your time.

Please strongly consider re-including the Tattoo Technician Language in:
House Bill 6666- An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations
Regarding Various Revisions To The Public Health Statutes
before being voted out of the committee.

As tattoo artists, it is of the utmost importance that we have a voice in our industry. Our field is one that is very specialized and it is undoubtedly impossible for anyone outside of the field to make informed or correct decisions without our input. There are so many ins and outs, so much to consider, from artistic aspects to medical aspects, studio management, customer service, safety measures to protect the artist as well as the customer, really an endless list of need to knows that need to be considered in any decision making. Which brings me to my next point, tattooing as a trade and the apprentice/mentor relationship. Tattooing cannot be taught by someone without the proper level of experience. Due to the complex nature of the trade, I feel a minimum of five years experience is necessary to teach it. It is important to the integrity of a student/mentor relationship that a mentor is able to give the necessary amount of attention to an apprentice. For this reason I do not believe any tattooer should be teaching more than two apprentices at time. We see apprentice factories far too often in this line of work. Not only is it insulting to tattooing as a craft, but it poses a public health risk. The medical training required to do this job correctly is not something that should be taken lightly.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Dora Sambuco-Ahmed
owner/tattoo artist
Earthship Studios, Waterbury
CAPT Member