

**Dear distinguished members of the Appropriations
Committee,**

**I am a retired teacher from Westbrook and served for 30 years
in both the Hebron and East Haddam school districts. am
writing in SUPPORT OF SB 1082.**

**As a retired teacher I do not have a union and, as such, have
little to no representation. SB1082 gives me a voice in my
health care and pension issues in retirement.**

**I want to primarily address the mandate that the (TRB)
Teacher Retirement Board guarantee a supplement plan
option to retired teachers. My husband and I have enjoyed
the benefits and mandates provided by Medicare and a
supplement plan for many years. A supplement plan will allow
me alone to make decisions with my physician regarding my
health without the pre-authorization delays of other plans.
While I can appreciate the trend toward Advantage plans as a
base plan, (which is less costly) I am willing to pay the
upcharge for a Medicare Supplement plan as it provides me
with the benefits I need. While I was an active teacher I paid
into my health care account and continue to pay now. Please
know there is no extra cost to the state for offering a
supplement plan. In the supplement plan I willingly pay for**

the buy-up in order to retain traditional Medicare as we know it and the many benefits it provides.

Simply put, SB1082 gives me, not only a voice in matters that affect me in my retirement but also a choice which I deserve and need. Thank you for your hard work and for taking my testimony. Please vote yes in support of SB1082 and passage of the entire bill.

Respectfully,

Jackie Fastaia

Westbrook, CT

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