

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
for *Home Care, Inc*

M E M O

DATE: July 30, 2003
TO: Whom It May Concern
FROM: Monica Godbout, Director of Membership Services
RE: Opposition to New FCC Fax Rule, to be effective August 25, 2003

As a spokesperson of Connecticut Association for Home Care, representing 64 home care agencies, I would like to express our opposition to the new FCC rule that will require written authorization to fax material that could be considered commercial in nature. This rule, although honorable in theory, could be devastating to our non-profit organization and detrimental to our objectives to provide current information at the lowest possible cost in terms of administrative overhead and communication fees.

1. The ability to keep our members informed on timely issues is the primary benefit of our members joining our association. For legal protection, a labor-intensive burden of record keeping procedures would now be required to provide what was one of our primary sources of communication. New additional overhead administrative costs are being incurred and therefore dues may need to be adjusted, which may negatively impact our membership.
2. This same service provides the main incentive for outside vendors to partner with us. This new rule may deter vendors, who subsidize much of our operating costs and provide other membership benefits, from partnering with us.
3. Often non-members will inquire about our educational programs, conferences, advertising and group purchasing opportunities that are pertinent to our mutual businesses. It will be highly difficult, if not impossible, to obtain their written permission prior to sending such time sensitive materials before they need it.
4. Finally, caregivers and elderly citizens often call our association for a listing of appropriate agencies to contact for home care services. This is a community service that we provide as well as another benefit for agencies to join our association.

We ask that this ruling be reconsidered and that the "Established Business Relationship" qualification be reinstated in the fax regulations.