

# **James Bernhardt CPA/PFS**

## **Bernhardt CPA**

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To Senator Crisco, Representative Megna,  
Senator Kelly, Representative Sampson, and  
Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

## **Testimony in favor of HB5359, AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY ACUPUNCTURIST**

2-5-2015

My name is James Bernhardt CPA/PFS. As a CPA, I am constantly concerned with cost savings for my clients, whether they are companies or individuals. I am here to testify IN SUPPORT of Bill HB5359,

I have reviewed the numerous studies presented in the addendum material handed in today. (16 in number) These are some of the most recent and most well-designed studies of the Cost Effectiveness of Acupuncture compared to regular medical services. The studies do indeed show cost savings in the range of \$10,000-30,000 per patient, depending upon hospital stay costs and surgery, and patient group.

The studies show that patients often avoid the more costly procedures when utilizing Acupuncture initially in resolving health issues. Studies on chronic lower back pain, headaches, and menstrual pain are some of the issues included. For the sake of treatment and cost efficiency, I urge the Committee to pass this bill and give patients a fair choice for providers that are covered.

Thank you for your time.

James Bernhardt, CPA/PFS