



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 5, 2014**

**HB 5327, An Act Concerning Health Freedom And The Practice Of  
Classical Homeopathy**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5327, An Act Concerning Health Freedom And The Practice Of Classical Homeopathy**.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to detail the critical role hospitals play in the health and quality of life of our communities. All of our lives have, in some way, been touched by a hospital: through the birth of a child, a life saved by prompt action in an emergency room, or the compassionate end-of-life care for someone we love. Or perhaps our son, daughter, husband, wife, or friend works for, or is a volunteer at, a Connecticut hospital.

Hospitals treat everyone who comes through their doors 24 hours a day, regardless of ability to pay. In 2012, Connecticut hospitals provided nearly \$225 million in free services for those who could not afford to pay.

Connecticut hospitals are committed to initiatives that improve access to safe, equitable, high-quality care. They are ensuring that safety is reinforced as the most important focus—the foundation on which all hospital work is done. Connecticut hospitals launched the first statewide initiative in the country to become high reliability organizations, creating cultures with a relentless focus on safety and a goal to eliminate all preventable harm. This program is saving lives.

Generations of Connecticut families have trusted Connecticut hospitals to provide care we can count on.

HB 5327 seeks to permit classical homeopaths to provide complementary and alternative healthcare services without a license, provided their scope of practice is limited as described in the bill and that appropriate notice is provided to those seeking care. The written notice must contain a number of specific elements, use plain language, and indicate that the classical homeopath is not a physician and the services being provided are not regulated by the state.

The scope of practice for certified classical homeopaths was reviewed during the 2012 Department of Public Health scope of practice review process.

CHA was pleased to participate in the Review Committee and encourages the Public Health Committee to use the findings and conclusions identified in the report, "An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Oversight Responsibilities Relating to the Scope of Practice Determinations: Scope of Practice Review Committee Report on Classical Homeopaths," if the Committee decides to take on action on this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.