

**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
Friday, March 13, 2015**

**SB 1064, An Act Concerning The Palliative Use Of Marijuana**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 1064, An Act Concerning The Palliative Use Of Marijuana**.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals treat everyone who comes through their doors 24 hours a day, regardless of ability to pay.

This is a time of unprecedented change in healthcare, and Connecticut hospitals are leading the charge to transform the way care is provided. They are focused on providing safe, accessible, equitable, affordable, patient-centered care for all, and they are finding innovative solutions to integrate and coordinate care to better serve their patients and communities.

SB 1064, among other things, provides for legal immunity to nurses who administer medical marijuana.

To ensure that hospitals remain in compliance with Medicare Conditions of Participation requirements, we respectfully ask that, should the Committee take favorable action on SB 1064, the following language be added to Subsection (d) of Section 3:

(d) A nurse shall not be subject to arrest or prosecution, penalized in any manner, including, but not limited to, being subject to any civil penalty, or denied any right or privilege, including, but not limited to, being subject to any disciplinary action by the Board of Examiners for Nursing or other professional licensing board, for administering marijuana to a qualifying patient or research program subject in a hospital or health care facility licensed by the Department of Public Health, consistent with the hospital or health care facility's policies.

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