



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Monday, March 5, 2018**

**HB 5296, An Act Concerning A Study To Identify Ways For State
Government To Partner With Hospitals**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5296, An Act Concerning A Study To Identify Ways For State Government To Partner With Hospitals**. CHA supports HB 5296.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide high quality care for everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals are dynamic, complex organizations that are continually working to find innovative ways to better serve patients and communities and build a healthier Connecticut. By investing in the future of Connecticut's hospitals, we will strengthen our healthcare system and our economy, put communities to work, and deliver affordable care that Connecticut families deserve.

At the outset, we want to thank legislators for their continued support of hospitals throughout the last session, and into the summer and fall. Bi-partisan legislative support, and the specific support of leaders of each legislative caucus, was fundamental to hospitals reaching a historic agreement with the Administration.

CHA would like to thank the bi-partisan leadership of this Committee for raising this bill, with a specific thank you to the Speaker and the President Pro Tempore for recommending that the Committee identify ways for state government to partner with hospitals.

CHA urges the Committee to amend the bill to add the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) to the study, as its stated mission is to "implement comprehensive, data driven strategies that promote equal access to high quality health care, control costs and ensure better health for the people of Connecticut," and include CHA and hospital representation in the study.

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