



CONNECTICUT
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

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CHA Applauds State Action on SAGA Program Moving SAGA into Medicaid Helps State, Patients

Wallingford, CT – The Connecticut Hospital Association applauds the action today by Governor M. Jodi Rell to request federal approval to move patients in the State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) program into the state Medicaid program. This move, made possible by a provision of the recently-enacted federal healthcare reform law, will be accomplished through a state plan amendment, which if approved would be retroactive to April 1, 2010.

Connecticut is the first state to formally seek approval for this action, and stands to receive an infusion of federal dollars that will result from the higher reimbursement rate available for treating Medicaid patients.

“CHA thanks Governor Rell for her leadership in acting swiftly on the state plan amendment to move SAGA patients into Medicaid. This is an important step to providing improved healthcare for the most vulnerable among us,” stated Jennifer Jackson, CEO of the Connecticut Hospital Association. “We are equally indebted to Senator Dodd and our entire congressional delegation for championing the provision of federal law necessary to make this change a reality.”

“As well, we thank the leaders of the General Assembly, including Senator Don Williams, Speaker Chris Donovan, Appropriations Committee Co-Chairs Senator Toni Harp and Representative John Geragosian, and Human Services Committee Co-Chairs Senator Paul Doyle and Representative Toni Walker for their help throughout the process.”

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut’s hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut’s not-for-profit hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.