



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, February 11, 2009**

**HB 6264, An Act Concerning State-Wide Health Care Facility Planning**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to present testimony concerning **HB 6264, An Act Concerning State-Wide Health Care Facility Planning.**

HB 6264 requires the Office of Health Care Access (OHCA) to conduct an annual state-wide health care facility utilization study and assessment. In addition, HB 6264 requires OHCA to establish and maintain a state-wide health care facilities plan that shall include: an assessment of the availability of hospital care, hospital emergency care, specialty hospital care, outpatient surgical care, primary care, and clinic care; an evaluation of the unmet needs of persons at risk and vulnerable populations; a projection of future demand for health care services and the impact that technology may have on the demand, capacity or need for such services; and recommendations for the expansion, reduction or modification of health care facilities or services.

CHA supports OHCA's goal of long-term health planning for the state and its development of a state-wide health care facilities plan. CHA is pleased that HB 6264 contemplates a collaborative process. An integral part of the success of the facilities plan is its coordination with Connecticut hospitals.

CHA respectfully requests the inclusion of the following language that ensures collaboration and coordination between OHCA and Connecticut hospitals (suggested language is underlined):

“The commissioner, in consultation with representatives of Connecticut hospitals, shall develop a process that encourages hospitals to incorporate the state-wide health care facilities plan into hospital long-range planning and shall facilitate communication between appropriate state agencies concerning innovations or changes that may affect future health planning.”

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.