



CONNECTICUT
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 2, 2011**

HB 5608, An Act Concerning The Implementation Of Culturally And Linguistically Appropriate Standards In Health Care Settings

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to present testimony concerning **HB 5608, An Act Concerning The Implementation Of Culturally And Linguistically Appropriate Standards In Health Care Settings**. CHA supports this bill.

HB 5608 requires the Commission on Health Equity to establish a comprehensive collaborative committee to monitor the implementation of, and compliance with, standards 4 to 7, inclusive, of the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Standards issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health.

Connecticut hospitals know that culture and language are vital factors in how healthcare services are delivered and received, and that providing culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare services has the potential to improve access, quality of care, and ultimately health outcomes. As such, Connecticut hospitals are dedicated to providing quality care to patients and recognize that a commitment to effective communication is a cornerstone of providing services that will positively impact the health outcomes of the communities our hospitals serve.

We look forward to working with the Commission on Health Equity and the proposed collaborative committee to monitor the implementation of, and compliance with, these standards.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

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

JDI:pae