



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015**

**HB 6887, An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's
Recommendations Regarding The Protection Of Residents In Health
Care Institutions**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6887, An Act Concerning The Department Of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding The Protection Of Residents In Health Care Institutions**. CHA has some concerns with the language of the bill.

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.

Section 5 of HB 6887 would require hospitals to notify the Department of Public Health (DPH) of any major system failures including, but not limited to, loss of water, loss of heat, loss of electricity, and any incident that results in the activation of such institution's emergency response or emergency preparedness plan.

CHA is concerned that as drafted, the requirements for notifying DPH are too broad and could result in multiple unintended notifications to DPH for minor technical and mechanical mishaps that do not rise to the level envisioned in the drafted legislation. CHA has worked with DPH on appropriate language, and will continue to do so.

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