



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016**

**SB 217, An Act Concerning The Study Of The Provision Of  
Community-Based Health Care Services**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 217, An Act Concerning The Study Of The Provision Of Community-Based Health Care Services**. CHA supports this bill.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide core healthcare services to all of the people in Connecticut, 24 hours a day, regardless of ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals offer safe, accessible, equitable, affordable, patient-centered care that protects and improves peoples' lives.

Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) utilizes Paramedics who are specially trained in providing community-based care for people with chronic illnesses. The ability of these Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals to adapt their care to treat common chronic illnesses in the home and community versus having to transport such patients to acute care has been used in other states to provide a means to reduce frequent re-hospitalizations, in particular for frequent users of the emergency department.

MIH allows EMS to partner with hospitals, primary care physicians, nurses, home care, and mental health and social services providers on programs that navigate patients to the right level of care and allow care to occur, when appropriate, in the community rather than in an acute care setting.

CHA supports the study and welcomes the opportunity to participate.

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