



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 8, 2018**

**HB 5385, An Act Establishing A Working Group To Study Health
Insurance Premium Rate Increases And Develop Recommendations
To Mitigate Such Increases**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5385, An Act Establishing A Working Group To Study Health Insurance Premium Rate Increases And Develop Recommendations To Mitigate Such Increases**. CHA supports the intent of the bill and asks for the bill to be amended.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide high quality care for everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals are dynamic, complex organizations that are continually working to find innovative ways to better serve patients and communities and build a healthier Connecticut. They are developing integrated delivery networks with physicians, services, and technology to make sure patients receive high quality, coordinated, cost-effective, patient focused, and equitable care. By investing in the future of Connecticut's hospitals, we will strengthen our healthcare system and our economy, put communities to work, and deliver affordable care that Connecticut families deserve.

HB 5385 would establish a working group to study health insurance premium rate increases in this state and develop recommendations to mitigate such increases. Connecticut hospitals have long focused on improving quality and lowering costs associated with providing care to all in need. As such, we support the intent of the bill, but respectfully request that it be amended by adding the following:

One representative of the Connecticut Hospital Association, appointed by the President/CEO of the Association;

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