



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
Monday, February 25, 2019**

**HB 6161, An Act Requiring The Use Of Helmets By Motorcycle Operators And  
Passengers Under Twenty-One Years of Age**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6161, An Act Requiring The Use Of Helmets By Motorcycle Operators And Passengers Under Twenty-One Years of Age**. CHA supports this bill.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals and health systems provide high quality care for everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. They do more than treat illness and injury. They build a healthier Connecticut by improving community health, managing chronic illness, expanding access to primary care, preparing for emergencies, and addressing social determinants of health. 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.

As part of their missions, hospitals seek to remedy illness and prevent life threatening injuries before they happen. To that end, CHA supports HB 6161, a bill that would require the use of helmets by motorcycle operators and passengers under twenty-one years of age.

All too often, healthcare providers in Connecticut's hospitals see firsthand the impact of injury due to the lack of proper helmet use. All injury to the brain is traumatic and can cause life-long disability and impairment. Requiring the use of helmets by motorcycle operators and passengers under twenty-one years of age would go a long way to improving the health and well-being of countless Connecticut residents.

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