



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Monday, March 18, 2019**

**HB 7193, An Act Implementing The Governor’s Budget Recommendations
Regarding Public Health**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 7193, An Act Implementing The Governor’s Budget Recommendations Regarding Public Health**. CHA would like to recommend a small revision to the 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. 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.

Connecticut’s newborn screening program plays an important role in the early identification and referral for many life-threatening disorders. CHA would like to recommend that at the end of line 31, the following language be added: “in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health.” While we understand the financial role that the Office of Policy and Management plays in the Department’s budget, we believe it is important for the Commissioner to weigh in on the clinical aspects related to the newborn screening program.

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