



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

HB 7320, An Act Concerning Emergency Air Ambulance Services

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 7320, An Act Concerning Emergency Air Ambulance Services**. CHA has concerns with 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.

HB 7320 requires hospitals to report to the Commissioner of Public Health about the utilization of emergency air ambulance services to transport patients. The bill requires hospitals to report for each instance during the prior year in which the hospital utilized an emergency air ambulance service to transport a patient:

- (1) The emergency air ambulance service utilized,
- (2) Whether the emergency air ambulance service that was utilized is the primary service area responder, as defined in section 19a-175 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and
- (3) The amount the emergency air ambulance service charged to the patient for the emergency transport.

Hospitals in many circumstances will not have access to the information the bill requires to be reported to DPH. Should the bill move forward, CHA would like to work with the Committee and DPH on revised language.

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