



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 11, 2021**

**HB 6387, An Act Concerning Insurance Discrimination Against
Living Organ Donors**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6387, An Act Concerning Insurance Discrimination Against Living Organ Donors**. CHA supports this bill.

Before commenting on this bill, it is important to acknowledge that, since early 2020, Connecticut's hospitals and health systems have been at the center of the global public health emergency, acting as the critical partner in the state's response to COVID-19. Hospitals expanded critical care capacity, stood up countless community COVID-19 testing locations, and are a critical component of the vaccine distribution plan. Through it all, hospitals and health systems have continued to provide high-quality care for everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

HB 6387 would prohibit certain insurers from engaging in discriminatory practices against living organ donors, and further, provides that prohibited discrimination against these donors would constitute a violation of the Connecticut Unfair Insurance Practices Act.

For Connecticut residents waiting for transplants, organ and tissue donation is literally a matter of life and death. Supporting educational programs, dedicating funding, lowering regulatory barriers, and providing assurances that living donors will not be adversely impacted by insurers will go a long way to increase the supply of organs and tissue available for donation. CHA supports HB 6387 and other measures to lower barriers and encourage practices that increase the rates of organ donation.

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