



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
Monday, March 8, 2021**

**SB 100, An Act Concerning Intersex Persons**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 100, An Act Concerning Intersex Persons**. CHA opposes Section 7 of the 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.

SB 100 seeks to establish express civil rights and related protections for intersex persons in the same way that Connecticut law has extended rights and protections to a number of groups and classes of individuals. CHA and its members support treating all people with dignity and respect. We appreciate that the state is focused on protecting basic human rights.

We have significant concerns about Section 7 of the bill. Section 7 of SB 100 would create a task force to "study the circumstances in which a surgery related to a person's intersex status is medically necessary." There are myriad complex medical and social issues and perspectives that affect medical decision-making and patient rights related to an intersex person's status. We are concerned over the near impossibility of making statutory recommendations that could appropriately address the complex medical and social issues involved in every patient's decisions. We do not support medical necessity decisions like those involved being codified in law.

CHA and its members welcome the opportunity to work with the Department of Public Health, patients, providers, and other stakeholders to find ways to best address concerns and questions about medical care for intersex persons. But we do not believe the task force described in Section 7 of the bill is the right forum for those discussions.

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