



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

**SB 1028, An Act Concerning Physician Assistants' Scope of Practice**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 1028, An Act Concerning Physician Assistants' Scope of Practice**. CHA supports 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.

During the 2019 Legislative Session, CHA made a commitment to the leadership of the Public Health Committee to convene a working group to review the Connecticut General Statutes related to the role of physician assistants as part of the patient care team. The working group that was formed and met included representatives from CHA, the nursing home industry, home care and hospice, physicians and physician assistants. We completed a thorough review of each potentially affected statute and came to agreement on sections of those statutes that should be updated to reflect current or permitted practice of a physician assistant under the supervision of a physician.

SB 1028 is the outcome of the working group discussions and CHA encourages the Committee to support the bill.

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