



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Monday, March 21, 2022**

**HB 5398, An Act Requiring Certain Health Care Providers To Notify Their Patients
Of Pain Management Options During A Gynecological Procedure**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5398, An Act Requiring Certain Health Care Providers To Notify Their Patients Of Pain Management Options During A Gynecological Procedure**. CHA opposes the bill.

Since early 2020, hospitals and health systems have been at the center of Connecticut's response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, acting as a vital partner with the state and our communities. Hospitals expanded critical care capacity, procured essential equipment and supplies, and stood up countless community COVID-19 testing locations. Hospitals have been an essential component of the statewide vaccine distribution plan including efforts to reach and serve historically under-resourced communities disproportionately affected by the virus.

CHA believes that patients should feel comfortable having open conversations with their healthcare providers and that those discussions should include issues relevant to pain management. While CHA supports the intent behind the provisions of the bill, we oppose proposals that seek to statutorily mandate the provision of medical care, direct its related clinical decision-making, and disrupt provider-patient relationships.

The practice of medicine and the provision of healthcare, change rapidly with new technologies and as science evolves. It should be left to trained and licensed healthcare providers to review, consider, and incorporate new information, emerging technologies, healthcare approaches, and available medications in treatment and care conversations with their patients.

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