



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

**HB 6768, An Act Concerning The Department Of Consumer Protection's
Recommendations Regarding Prescription Drug Regulation**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6768, An Act Concerning The Department Of Consumer Protection's Recommendations Regarding Prescription Drug Regulation**. CHA supports the bill.

Connecticut hospitals continue to meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and are now facing new challenges of treating sicker patients than they saw before the pandemic, with a dedicated but smaller workforce who are exemplary but exhausted. They are also experiencing significant financial hardships brought on by record inflation. Through it all, hospitals have been steadfast, providing high-quality care for everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay.

CHA is grateful for the careful consideration the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) has given to finding solutions for several important issues, resulting in various measures found in HB 6768 that are designed to:

- Protect an individual's right to make their own reproductive healthcare choices, while clarifying the role of pharmacists and pharmacies in informing patients about their choices
- Improve access to vital opioid reversal drugs to bolster the fight against the opioid crisis
- Provide flexibility for dispensing medications in certain community-based settings
- Ensure safety in drug compounding, while recognizing the need for common sense flexibility when applying broad standards (e.g., exempting certain flavoring agents from United States Pharmacopeia (USP) requirements)

We look forward to working with DCP going forward on these and other issues of vital importance to patients and providers.

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