



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Monday, March 6, 2023**

HB 6836, An Act Concerning Blood Plasma Collection

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6836, An Act Concerning Blood Plasma Collection**. CHA has concerns about the bill, as drafted.

HB 6836 would create a new scheme for how blood collection activities are licensed and overseen. CHA opposes the bill as written as it would cause confusion and disruption in hospitals' appropriate use of blood products as well as collection practices. Specifically, HB 6836 creates confusion over what licenses are needed to be blood collection or plasma donation centers.

CHA appreciates that there are lab standards and other blood products standards that need to be enforced, but any changes to the current system should be accomplished in a way that does not put the current system at risk. Hospitals, as a major user of blood products in Connecticut, have a significant interest in ensuring that the supply is not disrupted and that hospitals can continue their own blood products related work without the need for additional licensure.

As drafted, this bill will likely cause blood supply disruptions to hospitals across the state.

If the Committee takes action on HB 6836, we urge the following two changes:

1. Add a clause that states: Nothing herein affects the ability of a licensed hospital to undertake any blood collection processes that are otherwise consistent with federal law.
2. Modify or delete lines 170-176. The language in this section should be drafted in such a way to provide clarity to the regulated entity as to the standards being reviewed and enforced by DPH while providing DPH with waiver capability so as not to impede the availability of blood products in Connecticut.

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