



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 14, 2023**

SB 933, An Act Establishing A Cybersecurity Task Force

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 933, An Act Establishing A Cybersecurity Task Force**. 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.

SB 933 establishes a task force to examine cybersecurity with the goal of developing a strategic plan that includes findings and recommendations on key features of cybersecurity as it affects Connecticut.

Given the importance of cybersecurity, and the critical role hospitals play in the use and protection of personal data, CHA respectfully requests to be named to the task force to represent the healthcare industry.

Cybersecurity is one of the most complex areas affecting healthcare and its supporting infrastructure. Hospitals play a critical role in the cyber environment, often acting as the technology hub for large geographic sectors across the healthcare continuum. As a result of the federal meaningful use program, and as influenced by HIPAA requirements, hospitals have been working on cybersecurity for longer than many other industries, and have significant input to share regarding infrastructure, architecture, and the drivers that affect how cybersecurity is managed in the field.

We appreciate your consideration of our request to be named to the task force.

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