



For Immediate Release

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Connecticut Hospitals Support Transparency Measures Proposed by the Connecticut Attorney General

WALLINGFORD – Last fall, Attorney General George Jepsen brought to light a concern that patients seeking care at physician offices that are part of a hospital might not know they are being treated at a hospital, that they would receive two bills for that care, and that the cost for the care would be higher because the hospital facility fee now covers a portion of the hospital's ongoing operating expenses.

Since that time, CHA has been working with the Attorney General's office and hospital representatives to develop solutions that would be helpful to patients. Today, the Attorney General released a [report](#) concerning hospital physician practice acquisitions and hospital-based facility fees, in which he recommends the passage of HB 5337, *An Act Concerning Fees Charged for Services Provided at Hospital-based Facilities*. CHA supports the passage of HB 5337, which would require hospitals to provide patients with written notice regarding fees charged for services provided at hospital-based outpatient facilities.

Connecticut hospitals support efforts to make pricing more transparent and meaningful for consumers, and agree that when seeking a physician, patients should not be surprised to learn after the fact that they are being treated at a hospital, or that they will receive two bills and the facility fee covers a portion of the hospital's ongoing operating expense.

In January, the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut Hospital Association unanimously adopted a recommendation that all Connecticut hospitals provide patients with information about facility fees in advance of their treatment. Specifically, CHA recommended that all Connecticut hospitals adopt changes to improve pricing transparency. At every off-campus hospital-based provider location, CHA has recommended that Connecticut hospitals provide written notice informing patients that they are receiving care at an outpatient department of the hospital, how many bills they are likely to receive, and an estimate of the typical charges. Read the Policy on Facility Fees and Physician Services by clicking [here](#).

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About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.