



Thursday, March 15, 2018

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Update Archives

Save the Date for CHA's 100th Annual Meeting**CHA Testifies on Hospital-Related Bills**

CHA provided testimony on a number of hospital-related bills this week.

On Wednesday, March 14, the Judiciary Committee held a public hearing and CHA provided testimony on:

[HB 5473](#), *An Act Concerning Captive Audience Meetings*, a bill opposed by CHA that would prohibit any person engaged in business from requiring his or her employees to attend employer-sponsored meetings that have as their primary purpose communications concerning religious or political matters. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).

On Thursday, March 15, the Human Services Committee held a public hearing and CHA provided testimony on:

- **[HB 5256](#), *An Act Requiring The Department Of Social Services To Collect And Maintain Data Concerning The Transportation Needs Of Medicaid Recipients***, a bill supported by CHA, Connecticut State Medical Society, LeadingAge Connecticut, Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities, Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers, and American Medical Response of Connecticut. The bill would require the Department of Social Services to collect and maintain data regarding the transportation needs of Medicaid recipients for nonemergency medical appointments. The joint testimony can be found [here](#).

On Friday, March 16, the Public Health Committee is scheduled to hold a public hearing and CHA will provide testimony on:

- **[HB 5152](#), *An Act Concerning The Prescribing Of Controlled Substances Used In Medication-Assisted Treatment Of Substance Use Disorders Through The Use Of Telehealth***, a bill supported by CHA that seeks to permit the prescribing of controlled substances used in medication-assisted treatment of substance use disorders through the use of telehealth services. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).
- **[HB 5299](#), *An Act Concerning Telehealth Prescribing For Treatment Of Psychiatric Disorders***, a bill supported by CHA that seeks to permit the prescribing of schedule I, II, or III controlled substances through the use of telehealth for the treatment of psychiatric disorders. It also seeks to require payment parity for telehealth services. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).
- **[SB 302](#), *An Act Concerning Telehealth Services***, a bill supported by CHA that would add providers who can administer telehealth services and modify and clarify patient consent procedures related to treatment rendered through telehealth services. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).
- **[SB 401](#), *An Act Concerning The Use Of Automatic External Defibrillators***, a bill supported by CHA that would provide liability protection to physicians and other healthcare professionals who use automated external defibrillators in the scope of their practice or employment when the automatic external defibrillator malfunctions. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).
- **[HB 5290](#), *An Act Concerning The Office Of Health Strategy***, a bill supported by CHA that would make numerous changes to statutes governing the establishment of the Office of Health Strategy. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).
- **[SB 300](#), *An Act Concerning Collaborative Arrangements Between Physician Assistants And Physicians***, a bill opposed by CHA that would allow physician assistants to collaborate with physicians in certain circumstances. CHA's testimony can be found [here](#).

Patient Safety Awareness Week Advances Safety Culture



This week is Patient Safety Awareness Week (PSAW), a designated time for hospitals and other healthcare providers to increase awareness and share the work they do to advance patient safety, safety culture, and patient engagement. Connecticut hospitals have long been committed to improving patient safety, launching a first-of-its-kind statewide initiative to eliminate all cause preventable harm using high reliability science to create a culture of safety.

PSAW, held from March 11-17, is being led by the National Patient Safety Foundation and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

As part of its ongoing efforts to advance patient safety and awareness, CHA will hold its 16th Annual *Patient Safety Summit* on Tuesday, April 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event, which is co-sponsored with Qualidigm and the Connecticut Association of Healthcare Executives, will focus on developing strategies and processes to change care statewide.

The morning program will include a keynote presentation by representatives from Christiana Care Health System, recipient of the John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award for Innovation in Patient Safety and Quality at the Local Level. National healthcare consultant Charisse Coulombe, MS, MBA, will also discuss national improvement strategies. In the afternoon, Tim McDonald, MD, JD, and Melinda Van Niel will talk about successful implementations of disclosure, apology, and early resolution programs.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

CHA Hosts Day of Substance Use Disorder Programs



CHA is hosting a day of programs on Thursday, March 22, 2018, that will focus on substance use disorders and their effects on mothers, babies, and the general population.

The day will begin with the Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative (CPQC) *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Conference*, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at which presenters will discuss strategies for working with mothers in recovery from substance use disorder and ways to create an environment that enables clinicians to work with mothers and babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS).

Presenters at the conference will include Marilyn Sanders, MD, Attending Neonatologist, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and Professor of Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, who will discuss working with mothers in recovery from substance use disorder. Dr. Sanders will focus her presentation on creating an atmosphere of safety and security in the hospital that enables mothers to be present for their babies.

The conference will also feature a presentation by Christopher Morosky, MD, Associate Professor, Clerkship Director, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, UConn John Dempsey Hospital and UConn School of Medicine, and Jonathan Craig Allen, MD, Chief of Psychiatry, MidState Medical Center, who will conduct a panel discussion regarding the maternal side of the NAS initiative, with discussion on opioid prescribing to mothers.

Dr. Morosky and Dr. Sanders are the Co-Chairpersons of the CPQC, which works to promote high quality maternal and newborn care across the continuum.

To register online for the CPQC *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Conference*, click [here](#).

The afternoon conference, *Responding to the Opioid Epidemic*, will run from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and will include presentations on the history of the opioid epidemic in Connecticut, the science of addiction, and practical hospital strategies for managing this patient population.

Presenters will include Claudia Burchett, RN, BSN, Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer of Southern Ohio Medical Center, who will discuss hospital strategies for responding to the opioid epidemic. Ms. Burchett is the Co-Chairperson of the Ohio Hospital Association Opiate Response Initiative. Also on the program are Muhammad Munawar, MD, Chairman and Director of the Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Behavioral Health Group, who will give a presentation on the science of addiction; C. Steven Wolf, MD, Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, and Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter School of Medicine, who will be speaking about the history of the opioid epidemic in Connecticut and current options for access to treatment; and Jennifer Chadukiewicz, RCP, Recovery Coach Program Manager, CT Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR), who will discuss the CCAR Emergency Department Recovery Coach program.

To register online for the *Responding to the Opioid Epidemic* program, click [here](#).

Veteran State Senator Announces Retirement

State Senator Gayle Slossberg (D-Milford), a centrist Democrat who has served the 14th district for eight terms, announced last week that she will not seek re-election in November. First elected in 2004, Sen. Slossberg has been a vocal legislative advocate for hospitals and has served as a tireless champion for Milford

Hospital.

Sen. Slossberg is the seventh senator to announce an intention to either seek higher office, retire, or otherwise not run for reelection in the November 2018 elections. Four of the seven senators are Democrats, while three are Republicans.



During her tenure in the General Assembly, Sen. Slossberg has been a leading voice for legislation impacting political campaigns and voting, job creation, and economic growth. As an advocate for her district, Sen. Slossberg has helped businesses grow and retain jobs, and has served as a key supporter of Milford Hospital. She has been recognized by many community-based and statewide organizations for her advocacy on behalf of their causes. Active in community affairs, Sen. Slossberg served in a number of capacities to help enrich the lives of others, including her work as a mentor to a teenage mother through "Bright Beginnings," a Yale New Haven Hospital program that pairs experienced mothers with teenage mothers-to-be.

Currently, Sen. Slossberg serves as the Deputy Majority Leader, Chair of the Education and Housing Committees, Vice Chair of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, and as a member of the Appropriations and Regulation Review Committees.

The 14th State Senate District encompasses the towns of Milford, Orange, the southern half of West Haven, and part of Woodbridge.

Hartford Legislator to Resign



State Representative Angel Arce (D-Hartford) announced last week that he will resign his seat in the State House of Representatives.

Rep. Arce's decision to resign came one week after the *Hartford Courant* reported that he exchanged inappropriate messages in 2015 with a 16-year-old girl. Party leaders and Governor Dannel Malloy called for Rep. Arce's resignation following those reports.

First elected in 2012, Rep. Arce most recently served as the Vice Chairman of the Transportation Committee and as a member of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding, Housing, and Judiciary Committees. The 4th House District seat being vacated by Rep. Arce covers a portion of the city of Hartford.

Under state law, the Governor is required to issue a Writ of Special Election within 10 days of a vacancy in the General Assembly, and a Special Election must take place 46 days after its issuance. The winner of the Special Election will serve the remainder of the term, which runs until January 2019.

Education Updates

Issue-Based Forum: Patient Access Rights and Release of Information

Thursday, March 22, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA members are invited to attend an issue-based forum with a focus on assisting hospitals with achieving understanding and compliance related to patient access rights and release of information, including an emphasis on the nuances specific to substance use treatment records. There is no cost associated with this event, which is intended for a broad hospital audience.

Staff to Management: Starting the Transition

Monday, March 26, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

Making the transition from being a staff person to a supervisor/manager is a significant step. Transitioning from individual contributor to being effective in a leadership role is far more challenging and complicated than ever before and requires the ability to use the tools of diplomacy, negotiation, persuasion, and alliance-building to a greater degree than one used in the past. Managing the demands of an organization for high productivity and quality, combined with financial prudence and regulatory compliance, are only part of the equation.

Participants will discover that those tasks must be balanced with an excellent grasp of human relations skills in working closely and collaboratively with others while managing change.

Conflict Management: Engaging the Difficult Employee

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

Conflict is inevitable in life—in one's personal life as well as in the workplace. Different personalities, different work styles, cultural/ethnic norms, and differences in generational mix, all lead to an endless possibility of conflict surfacing at work. What is not so clear is the role conflict plays in the process of change and effective team problem solving—both major factors in improving organization performance.

This program will help participants recognize and manage conflict, understand when is conflict healthy or destructive, and learn how to reduce or defuse unnecessary conflict.

Lean Principles: Process Flow and Value Stream Mapping in Healthcare

Session 1: Monday, April 9, 2018

Session 2: Monday, April 16, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

As the demands of health reform drive change in all areas of healthcare delivery, hospital leaders are focused on transforming their organizations through strategies that simultaneously increase revenue and sharply reduce costs. Lean principles offer leaders a management system and methodology that improves team engagement, eliminates road blocks, and allows hospitals to improve the quality of care for patients by reducing errors and waste streams, including wait times. It is a systematic approach to reducing costs and risks, while simultaneously setting the stage for growth and expansion.

Please note: This is a two-session program. Participants should attend both sessions.

Managing the Operating Budget

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

In today's healthcare environment, resources are limited. Managers must understand revenue and costs behavior, how to analyze their departmental performance, and how to modify performance to achieve their budgeted operational and financial objectives. This day-long program—part two of a two-part series introduced in April 2017—will introduce managers to a variety of analytic tools (revenue and spending analysis, volume adjusted variance analysis, work process and root cause analysis, revenue and expense forecasting) as well as a number of strategies to improve revenue and expense performance.

Financial Analysis Tools for Managers

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

What is the potential financial impact of a new initiative or a new technology? How can the financial impact be determined? Why is departmental supply spending so much higher than last year? Does it make sense to staff a critical vacancy with agency staff? Is the employment of clinical pharmacists, intensivists or hospitalists financially sound?

What are the best ways to develop answers to these questions? This program provides managers and clinicians with tools they can use to answer these and other questions about current performance and opportunities they are considering.

HIIN Health Equity: Developing Effective Partnerships to Address Social Determinants of Health

Friday, April 27, 2018

9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

Hospitals are forging collaborative relationships with key community partners to improve care and achieve health equity. Partnerships between hospitals and community-based organizations are central to addressing the social determinants of health linked with effective healthcare and improved patient outcomes. In this workshop, Collaborative Consulting, a specialist consultancy with expertise in partnership development between healthcare and communities, will provide information on models and strategies for effective hospital/community based-organization partnerships.

This program is being offered under the Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN), a CMS national initiative aimed at advancing patient and family engagement and reducing events of preventable patient harm.

