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Legislative leaders from the Democratic and Republican caucuses released their FY 19 budget adjustment proposals last Friday, two weeks after the budget-writing committee's deadlines and three days after the April 17 tax collection deadline.

Each of the budget proposals maintain hospital supplemental payments and Medicaid rates for FY 2019, but preserve cuts to the Graduate Medical Education (GME) funding proposed by Governor Dannel Malloy.

The budget plans also propose using money from higher-than-expected personal income tax receipts. They restore funding for the Medicare Savings Plan (MSP), maintain the enhanced reimbursement rate for primary healthcare providers who serve Medicaid patients, restore municipal aid and education cost sharing funding, and provide additional money for emergency placements for Department of Developmental Services (DDS) clients.

In a rarely used parliamentary maneuver, House Democratic members "split" the committee into a House Committee and Senate Committee with respect to the Democratic budget proposal and passed the Democratic budget, sending it to the House Chamber.

The Senate members of the Appropriations Committee did not take action on the Democratic budget. By "splitting" the Committee, the entire House chamber may take action on the bill, but the bill may not be sent to the Senate chamber for action, thus making it impossible to become law. This maneuver allowed House Democrats to support their proposals to increase spending in their priority programs, at least at the committee level.

The Republican budget was defeated along party lines by a vote of 27-25.

Governor Malloy was critical of both budget proposals for using the personal income tax receipts for ongoing spending programs.

Legislative leaders continued bipartisan budget negotiations this week.

House of Representatives Acts on Hospital Contracting Bill

The House of Representatives met in session last week and voted in favor of two bills of interest to hospitals. The bills now go to the Senate for a vote.

The first bill is [HB 5383](#), **An Act Concerning Disputes Between Health Carriers And Participating Providers That Are Hospitals**. HB 5383 establishes a "cooling off" period if a participating provider (such as a hospital) and a health carrier are unable to reach a new contract agreement.

Specifically, it requires a health carrier and a participating provider, or the provider's parent corporation, to continue to abide by the terms of a non-renewed or terminated contract, including reimbursement terms, for at least 60 days after the contract ends. The bill also increases, from 60 to 90 days, the amount of advance notice a health carrier and participating provider must provide each other before the carrier removes a provider from, or the provider leaves, the network.

The bill also stipulates, in a CHA-supported provision, that if the health carrier and provider renew or enter into a new contract within the 60-day period, that the new contract's reimbursement terms are retroactive to the date the original contract ended, unless the parties agree otherwise.

The House also voted in favor of [HB 5290](#), **An Act Concerning The Office Of Health Strategy**, a bill supported by CHA that would make numerous technical changes to statutes governing the establishment of the Office of Health Strategy (OHS). Of note, HB 5290 transfers, from the Department of Public Health (DPH) to OHS, the administration of the Office of Health Care Access (OHCA) and renames it the Office of Health Systems Planning Unit (HSPU).

Additionally, the bill transfers, from the State Innovation Model Initiative Program Management (SIM) Office to the OHS Executive Director, responsibility for studying the feasibility of creating a certification program for community health workers.

Doris Kearns Goodwin to Headline CHA's 100th Annual Meeting



In recognition of the historical significance of CHA's Centennial anniversary, we are pleased to announce that Pulitzer author and world-renowned presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will deliver the keynote address at the Connecticut Hospital Association's 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018.

Ms. Goodwin is the author of six critically acclaimed and New York Times best-selling books, including her most recent, *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*. Winner of the Carnegie Medal, *The Bully Pulpit* is a dynamic history of the first decade of the Progressive Era, that tumultuous time when the nation was coming unseamed and reform was in the air. Ms. Goodwin won the Pulitzer Prize in history for *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II*.

Well known for her appearances and commentary on television, Ms. Goodwin is seen frequently on NBC, MSNBC, CBS, FOX, CNN, and ABC, as well as Meet the Press, and late night talk shows. Ms. Goodwin will release a new book this fall on presidential leadership.

The theme of this year's Annual Meeting is: *To Participate in Healing is the Noblest Work – CHA: Celebrating 100 Years of Service*. This theme highlights the essential nature of our collective mission, and the legacy of

care and healing for all.

A Closer Look at Asthma: Innovation and Strategies for the Future



On Thursday, May 10, 2018, CHA will present *A Closer Look at Asthma: Innovation and Strategies for the Future*.

The day-long conference, offered through a collaboration between CHA's Connecticut Asthma Initiative (CAI) and the Connecticut State Department of Public Health's Asthma Program, will feature sessions focused on innovation and strategies for community partnerships to improve asthma care and outcomes. National and local speakers will present on promising approaches to improving asthma care, including new services programs, genomic research and treatment, and cross-sector collaboration.

The conference takes place during Asthma Awareness Month, during which organizations dedicated to asthma control and education work together to increase knowledge about a disease that impacts millions of Americans.

Elizabeth Cotton Matsui, MD, Professor of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will be the keynote speaker at the conference. Dr. Matsui, a leading international expert on environmental allergies and asthma, will give a presentation on disparities in childhood asthma.

Five speakers will give presentations on best practices in asthma care: Anne Diamond, JD, President and CEO of Day Kimball Hospital, and Chairperson of the CAI; Sunil D'Cunha, MD, Fair Haven Community Health; Anna Goddard, PhD, APRN, Child and Family Agency of Southeastern CT; Marie-Christine Bournaki, PhD, RN, Asthma Program, Connecticut Department of Public Health; and Alice Forrester, PhD, Chief Executive Director, Clifford Beers Clinic.

The conference will also feature a panel discussion on innovations in asthma care, moderated by Dr. Matsui and featuring three experts: Geoffrey Chupp, MD, Yale University; Andrew DeWan, PhD, MPH, Yale University; and Christopher Carroll, MD, Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Finally, Suzanne Mineck, President, Mid-Iowa Health Foundation, will speak about cross-sector collaboration in asthma care.

The Connecticut Asthma Initiative began in 2015 to address the problem of asthma in Connecticut. The vision of the initiative is to eliminate mortality due to asthma and ensure that no one in Connecticut unnecessarily limits his or her life because of asthma. Since its inception, a group of more than 200 people from 94 organizations across the continuum have partnered to connect communities, healthcare providers, and public health organizations. More recently, the initiative has broadened its mission to focus on identifying and addressing healthcare disparities, such as environmental or socioeconomic factors, that can result in barriers to treatment.

According to the CDC, 24 million people living in the United States are affected by asthma, including more than six million children. It causes three in five people living with asthma to limit their physical activity or miss days at school or work, and costs the nation \$56 billion each year.

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

Second Annual Connecticut Healthcare Association Collaborative Event at the Capitol



CHA and its partners in the Connecticut Healthcare Association Collaborative will sponsor a legislative reception on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, to affirm their united support for a strong Medicaid program. The event will recognize and focus on the significant lifeline that the Medicaid program offers to the citizens of Connecticut.

The reception will take place in Room 310 of the Capitol from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The event is one of a series of forums designed to inform legislative and state policy makers on issues impacting Connecticut's healthcare provider community. The members of the Connecticut Healthcare Association Collaborative include CHA, the Connecticut Association of Healthcare Facilities, LeadingAge Connecticut, the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, and the Connecticut State Medical Society.

Education Updates

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

Friday, April 27, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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

Hospitals are forging collaborative relationships with key partners in their communities to improve care and achieve health equity. Partnerships between hospitals and key community-based organizations are central to addressing the social determinants of health that are tied to effective healthcare and improved patient outcomes. Collaborative Consulting, which has expertise in partnership development between healthcare and community organizations, will provide information in this workshop 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.

Transitioning From Staff to Management: What's Next?

Thursday, May 3, 2018

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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

Whether recently assigned to the role of manager or a seasoned veteran, it is important to determine how well one's problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making skills are keeping pace with the ever-changing healthcare environment. For those who attended *Staff to Management: Starting the Transition* in March or September, this is the second course in the two-part program and provides additional development for all managers—those who are new to the role and those who want to improve their skills.

Leading in Turbulent Times

Friday, May 4, 2018

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

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

The scope and pace of change in healthcare is unrelenting. Turbulent times is synonymous with VUCA, an acronym that describes an environment that is Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous. Healthcare fits that description perfectly – and as the healthcare landscape continues to evolve, learning the strategies and principles of VUCA leadership will enhance focus and agility. This workshop will blend didactic and experiential material, giving leaders practical tools to engage their employees in shaping organizational culture and achieving outcomes that drive operational excellence.

Issue-Based Forum on Human Trafficking in the United States and Connecticut

Friday, May 4, 2018

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

[Event Registration](#)

CHA members are invited to attend an Issue-Based Forum on Human Trafficking in the United States and Connecticut. The forum will feature a report on the work of the Connecticut Trafficking in Persons Council and an update on new and recent laws to combat human trafficking in Connecticut. Representatives from the Connecticut Department of Children and Families and Love 146 will conduct a training and education session geared toward hospital-based caregivers. An agent representing the Federal Bureau of Investigations will address the role that hospitals may play to assist the FBI in its work. The program will also feature a panel discussion on the work being done in Connecticut hospitals to treat the victims of human trafficking.

Issue-Based Forum on the Lessons Learned from Middlesex Hospital's Emergency Response

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA will host an issue-based forum for members on May 8 about Middlesex Hospital's response to the extraordinary event that occurred earlier this year in its Emergency Department (ED).

On February 22, a man intentionally drove his car into the glass doors of the Middlesex Hospital ED before setting himself on fire outside the hospital entrance. What followed was a test of skills, planning, execution, teamwork, and extraordinary dedication and resilience on the part of the hospital staff. The Middlesex Hospital management team will share information about the nature and scope of the crisis – including the hospital's emergency planning process, how multi-disciplinary responsibilities were coordinated, what worked, and lessons learned.

This program will be helpful to hospital security officers, engineers, patient care leaders, risk managers, public relations staff, human resources leaders, compliance staff, ED physician and nursing leaders, emergency planners, and anyone responsible for responding to a difficult emergent situation.

This event is for members only and is not open to the public.

Best Practices in Caring for the Mother/Baby Dyad with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Thursday, May 17, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

The *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome* conference will provide information on best practices for caring for the mother/baby dyad, with a focus on patient and family education, as well as collaboration between state agencies caring for this population.

HIIN: Fall Rates Aren't Falling: Evidence-based Strategies to Tackle Falls

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

In this workshop, Jackie Conrad of Cynosure Health will review evidence-based practices, provide practical examples of clinical improvement projects, and engage participants in a dialogue about challenges and solutions facing hospitals.

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.

2018 CHA Regulatory Compliance Conference

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

CHA's *2018 Regulatory Compliance Conference* offers a full day of education related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender patients (LGBT). The LGBT community has historically experienced a variety of discriminatory behaviors in seeking healthcare services, resulting in a long-standing distrust of the healthcare system that has put their health at risk in profound ways. Healthcare professionals face regulatory compliance demands to eliminate such discrimination.

The conference will provide practical guidance on understanding educational, operational, and legal enforcement issues, and the need to balance those issues when establishing the policies and systems required to provide a welcoming and inclusive healthcare environment for patients and families of the LGBT community.

This conference is intended for hospital staff looking to obtain more information and awareness around serving the needs of this diverse population, including those working in patient and family experience roles, community health, clinical leadership, direct care staff, as well as legal, risk, compliance, IT, health information management, communications, and human resources.

HIIN Improving Health Equity: Addressing Social Determinants of Health - Morning and Afternoon Workshops

Thursday, May 24, 2018

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

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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

Addressing social determinants of health is critical to improving quality of care and achieving health equity. CHA continues to work with Rishi Manchanda, MD, and his team at HealthBegins to bring his extensive knowledge, expertise, and "Upstream" approach to hospitals, healthcare organizations, and providers in Connecticut. Dr. Manchanda will lead two three-hour workshops on approaches to improving care and outcomes through a focus on social determinants of health. The workshops will build upon one another, beginning with basic information and moving to more advanced approaches.

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.

