



Written Testimony of:
Alfreda D. Turner
Vice Chairman
Community Health Network of Connecticut, Inc. Board of Directors

Supporting
Raised Bill HB 5905: AN ACT MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF PREFERRED
PROVIDER NETWORK AND CLARIFYING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE
CHARTER OAK HEALTH PLAN

Human Services Committee
March 11, 2008

Dear Representative Villano, Senator Harris and Members of the Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of raised bill HB 5905, An Act Modifying the Definition of Preferred Provider Network and Clarifying Certain Provisions of the Charter Oak Health Plan. Specifically, I am writing in support of the provisions that would exempt a nonprofit organization providing services to only recipients of public assistance programs from the definition of a Preferred Provider Network (PPN).

CHNCT is a Connecticut-based nonprofit organization that is owned by seven Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which are: Charter Oak Health Center, Inc.; Fair Haven Community Health Center, Inc.; Generations Family Health Center, Inc.; Hill Health Corporation; Optimus Health Care, Inc.; Southwest Community Health Center, Inc.; and StayWell Health Care, Inc. CHNCT was organized in 1994 for the purpose of improving the health of the residents of the State of Connecticut and promoting the availability of high-quality, comprehensive health care services. CHNCT has enjoyed a successful partnership with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to arrange services for individuals in the HUSKY A, HUSKY B and State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) programs. The current financial security requirements in the PPN legislation would prohibit CHNCT from continuing this relationship. CHNCT's only source of revenue is from DSS. It cannot meet the current financial security requirements contained in the PPN legislation.

Therefore, I am encouraging the Committee to support this bill, which would allow CHNCT to continue providing services to the state's most vulnerable individuals. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alfreda D. Turner
President & CEO
Charter Oak Health Center, Inc.
Vice Chairman, CHNCT Board of Directors