



160 St. Ronan Street, New Haven, CT 06511-2390 (203) 865-0587 FAX (203) 865-4997

**Connecticut State Medical Society in Support of Senate Bill 483 An Promoting Patient Safety and Access to Provider Information by Extending the State Physician Profile to Certain Other Health Care Providers**  
**Submitted to the Judiciary Committee**  
**March 3, 2008**

Senator MacDonald, Representative Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee, On behalf of the over 7,000 members of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony to you today in support of Senate Bill 483 An Promoting Patient Safety and Access to Provider Information by Extending the State Physician Profile to Certain Other Health Care Providers. This proposed legislation supplements important legislation passed several years ago by this General Assembly.

Currently, physicians in the state of Connecticut are required to provide the Department of Public Health with specific information regarding education, practice, liability settlements and regulatory and judicial actions. This information is ultimately posted in an on-line profile system through the department and used by consumers when making important decisions when selecting a health care provider.

The legislation before you today expands the profiling system to include all of health care providers who are required to carry professional liability insurance. The need for inclusion of all providers in the profiling system becomes more critical as these alternative healthcare providers push to increase the scope and complexity of the services they provide to patients. Too often we hear arguments regarding the safety and/or lack of bad outcomes related to a profession seeking to expand its scope of practice without documentation or substantiation of a claim.

As health care is focused on a team approach, information on all members of the health care team needs to be available in a manner that is easy to comprehend and follows the familiar format of the physician profile. This will allow the public to more fully understand patient safety and quality in Connecticut, providing critical information to guide their choice of providers.

Please support Senate Bill 483