

Dr HENRY JACOBS

1/29/09

Remarks to the Executive and Legislative
Nominations Committee

Good afternoon Senator Looney, Representative Janowski and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. It is an honor to be nominated by Governor Rell and to have the opportunity to appear before this Committee.

I was born at Hartford Hospital, received my MD from UConn Medical School and my JD from Western New England College 30 years later! Hartford has been my home for 60 years. I have been lucky to have served in many capacities in Connecticut medicine.

For 31 years, I have had the privilege of caring for patients. I have been an Attending at Hartford Hospital, St. Francis Hospital and UConn Health Center. I have served as President of the Hartford County Medical Association, the Greater Hartford Ob/Gyn Society and served as an officer of the Conn. State Medical Society. I have long been involved in medical ethics, quality of care, hospital governance and access to care. Recently I served under Tom Swan and Margaret Flinter on the HealthFirst Committee of the Legislature.

As an attorney, I have consulted on standard of care and prepared an amicus memorandum for the State Medical Society on absolute versus qualified immunity in peer review. The Hartford County Bar Association has asked me to be a panelist on ERISA as applied to managed care at their upcoming meeting on healthcare. I currently serve on the Bar's healthcare executive committee. I was involved in the controversy surrounding UConn paying private doctors 'baby bounties' to bring deliveries to the Healthcenter. I was involved in quashing an attempt by a managed care plan to make exclusive arrangements with a private medical group which would have denied access by

patients to their physicians who would otherwise have been excluded from the plan.

It has been my passion to put quality of care, access to care and transparency in contracting first in medicine.

If confirmed, I will be a fair and thorough member of the Connecticut Medical Examining Board who can be counted upon to do the right thing. The safety of Connecticut patients has always been and will be my highest priority.

Thank you for your attention and I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have for me.

Henry Jacobs, MD JD