



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE March 3, 2009

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### **House Bill 6522 - An Act Concerning Licensing for Individuals Performing Services Under Agreements with Federally Qualified Health Centers**

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The Department of Public Health provides the following information on House Bill 6522.

House Bill 6522 would exempt physicians who provide telemedicine services pursuant to any agreement or arrangement with a Federally Qualified Health Center from having to hold a Connecticut license if the individual is not a resident of this state.

- Physicians, who are not licensed in Connecticut, would be authorized to provide diagnostic or treatment services, including primary diagnosis of pathology specimens, slides or images, through electronic communications or interstate commerce, and official written reports of diagnostic evaluation of such images to physicians or patients located in this state.
- Out-of-state physicians who provide such services in other settings are required to hold a Connecticut license.
- The Department of Public Health has concerns that this bill does not specify **any form of required current licensure** for individuals providing services.
- The Department of Public Health has **no authority** to take disciplinary action against such out-of-state physicians in the event that there is a violation in the standard of care. This is a concern for DPH in ensuring quality care for all Connecticut residents.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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