CONNECTICUT
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 11, 2009

SB 827, An Act Concerning Blood Donation By Minors

The Connecticut Hospital Association appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB 827, An Act Concerning Blood Donation By Minors**. SB 827 would permit any person who is sixteen years of age or older to donate blood in conjunction with any voluntary blood donation program. Currently, the legal age to donate is seventeen.

Connecticut hospitals rely on voluntary blood donations to provide essential medical care to their patients. It is imperative that donations are encouraged as the current blood supply is at a near crisis level. We know that the sooner people are allowed and encouraged to donate, the more likely they are to continue as donors. Expanding the pool of available donors will result in an increase in the supply of blood in Connecticut for both the short- and long-term.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.

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