CONNECTICUT
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 11, 2010

HB 5398, An Act Concerning A Pilot Program To Transfer Hospital Patients Who Receive Medicaid Benefits To Nursing Homes In A Timely Manner

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to present testimony concerning **HB 5398, An Act Concerning A Pilot Program To Transfer Hospital Patients Who Receive Medicaid Benefits To Nursing Homes In A Timely Manner**. CHA supports this bill.

HB 5398 requires the Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, a representative of an acute care hospital and a representative of a long-term care facility, to develop a plan to implement a pilot program to decrease the period of time that Medicaid recipients, who require long-term healthcare, remain hospitalized in an acute care hospital before transfer to a long-term care facility.

CHA supports this pilot program, to be developed with the input of the appropriate state agencies and healthcare providers, as a cost effective way to provide care for patients requiring long-term healthcare services. As Connecticut and the nation grapple with the critical question of how to reform our healthcare system, it is important that we be creative and develop pilot programs that will improve care to patients while saving precious healthcare dollars.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. We urge you to support HB 5398.

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