



Quality is Our Bottom Line

**Insurance Committee Public Hearing
January 25, 2011**

Connecticut Association of Health Plans

Testimony in Opposition to

HB 5030 AA Extending the Notification Period to Insurers Following the Birth of a Child.

The Connecticut Association of Health Plans respectfully requests the Committee's opposition to HB 5030.

While probably well intentioned, passage of this legislation would likely have a series of unintended consequences from adding to the administrative complexity in claims processing to potentially compromising quality outcomes.

Health plans seek to pay claims as quickly and as efficiently as possible. Claims processing is compromised when questions of eligibility arise. If health plans aren't notified promptly of a child's birth, the associated provider claims may have to be pended or a health plan may need to recoup payments made to providers in the event a new child is eventually enrolled elsewhere.

Likewise, case management efforts could be compromised if a delayed notification provision is implemented. Health plans are rated on the quality of care they arrange based upon a number of different measures including one measure that is tied to the percentage of post partum visits within six weeks of delivery. Health plans strongly encourage adherence to this standard which is in the best interest of the mother and child, however, if a health plan isn't notified of a delivery for 90 plus days after a birth, it's fairly difficult to adhere to this standard which is considered a health care "best practice."

We would ask that the Committee give careful consideration to the potential implications of this proposal and take no further action on HB 5030. Many thanks.