



MILFORD HOSPITAL

TESTIMONY OF
Milford Hospital
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Friday, March 11, 2011

**HB 6545, An Act Concerning The Provision Of Prophylactic And
Emergency Care To Hospital Patients**

Milford Hospital appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6545, An Act Concerning The Provision Of Prophylactic And Emergency Care To Hospital Patients** . Milford Hospital supports this bill.

Milford Hospital is a 106 bed, full service acute care community hospital serving the residents of Greater New Haven and Fairfield Counties. Milford Hospital employs over 800 staff members and has over 250 active and courtesy physicians with admitting privileges. During 2010, Milford Hospital served 4,600 in-patients and an additional 69,314 patients through Emergency Department and Outpatient Private Referrals.

It is the position of Milford Hospital that HB 6545 will enhance our ability to facilitate a continuum of care for the patients we serve in the following manners:

- HB 6545 would allow Milford Hospital to utilize protocols and policies, sometimes known as “standing orders” after an assessment for contraindications. Such orders would need to be in accordance with a physician-approved hospital policy; used for care that is emergent, timely and necessary or to advance patient care, and; only as permitted by 42 CFR Part 482, the CMS Medicare Conditions of Participation for hospitals.
- CMS has recently clarified its endorsement of the use of standing orders in a communication to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The communication was in response to an AAP request that CMS clarify the rule on standing orders because many in the

provider community, and many state oversight agencies, were under the mistaken impression that standing orders were not permitted.

HB 6545 will remove any confusion for providers, and for DPH, as to whether Connecticut supports standing orders, and in so doing, move us forward to achieving better care outcomes.

Milford Hospital asks you to support HB 6545. Thank you for your consideration.