

**TESTIMONY OF  
Greenwich Hospital  
SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
February 17, 2012**

**HB 5014, AN ACT MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO STATE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013**

On behalf of Greenwich Hospital, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5014, AN ACT MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO STATE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.**

At Greenwich Hospital, Service excellence is a top priority. The hospital is a recipient of the prestigious Summit Award which recognizes facilities for maintaining superior patient satisfaction. Together with our nearly 2000 employees, Greenwich Hospital strives to provide sensitive, high-quality health care to all patients and offers a wide range of medical, surgical, diagnostic and wellness programs.

We understand very well how difficult it is to operate in this economic environment and make choices among competing priorities, particularly as we plan for the implementation of federal health care reform which will reduce payments to us for the services we provide. And, while we thank Governor Malloy for submitting a budget that maintains hospital Medicaid rates, we have concerns over some of the provisions in the proposed budget that will reduce access and increase uncompensated care.

Specifically, we oppose provisions that will reduce Medicaid Low-Income Adult (LIA) enrollment by seeking a waiver to establish a \$25,000 asset limit (excluding an automobile or home); count family income when determining eligibility for individuals under the age of 26 and either living with their parents or claimed as a dependent for tax purposes; and impose limits on certain medical services.

We share the view expressed in your recent letter to DSS Commissioner Roderick L. Bremby, cautioning that the Medicaid LIA population is among our most vulnerable. The budget changes will impede access to healthcare coverage for a population that has just recently become eligible for Medicaid coverage under federal reform. Each of these proposed reductions will have a negative impact and make it more difficult for people to find care in the appropriate setting and enroll and remain in Medicaid. In these difficult economic times, it is more important than ever that the state is steadfast in its commitment to help those who cannot help themselves.

We appreciate and thank you for your consideration and urge your opposition to the LIA provisions included in the proposal.