



Quality is Our Bottom Line

Public Health Committee

Public Hearing

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Connecticut Association of Health Plans

Testimony in Opposition to

HB 5438 AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENTS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Connecticut Association of Health Plans respectfully urges the Committee's rejection of HB 5438 AAC Payments for Ambulance Services. Mandates, whether they are coverage based or administrative in nature such as HB 5438, simply add appreciable cost to the system at a time when premium price sensitivity is at its highest. The bill, as written, would also be impossible to implement. The bill requires payment by insurers within 60 days from the date of service regardless of when the claim is submitted. So, for instance, a company could submit a claim 59 days after the date of service and the health plan would be required to pay. Furthermore, there's no provision for whether the claim contains all the required information. As Connecticut moves towards implementation of federal health care reform and the development of a Health Insurance Exchange we would strongly encourage the General Assembly to be conservative in its adoption of additional mandated policies and procedures that restrict how health plans operate.

Thank you for your consideration.