CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

**TESTIMONY OF**
**CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION**
**SUBMITTED TO THE**
**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**
**Monday, March 19, 2012**

# HB 5339, An Act Extending The Reporting Requirements For And Expanding The Membership Of The Task Force To Study The Distribution Of State Funds To Municipalities

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5339, An Act Extending The Reporting Requirements For And Expanding The Membership Of The Task Force To Study The Distribution Of State Funds To Municipalities.** CHA supports this bill.

Section 30 of *Public Act 11-48, An Act Implementing Provisions Of The Budget Concerning General Government*, established a task force to study the distribution of state funds to municipalities. These distributions include grants to municipalities as payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) on real property of private colleges, general hospitals, chronic disease hospitals, and certain urgent care facilities located in such towns.

HB 5339 expands the membership of the task force and expands the reporting requirement. Specifically, HB 5339 expands membership of the task force to include the chief executive officer of the Connecticut Hospital Association, or said officer's designee.

The distribution of state funds to municipalities is an important issue to Connecticut hospitals. In all municipalities, hospitals serve as the healthcare safety net. Additionally, hospitals are the economic center of the neighborhoods and communities in which they are located. Keeping hospitals financially viable benefits municipalities, local businesses, and those we all serve.

For these reasons, CHA supports HB 5339.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.