

TESTIMONY OF
Harry Hajedemos, MD
MidState Medical Center

BEFORE THE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Friday, February 22, 2013

**HB 6350, AN ACT CONCERNING THE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30,
2015, AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO REVENUE**

- My name is Dr. Harry Hajedemos. I have worked as a Radiologist at MidState Medical Center for the last 22 years. MidState is located in Meriden, and the patient population that my hospital serves includes some of the neediest, most economically disadvantaged patients in our state.
- Gov. Malloy's proposed budget cuts to hospitals, and specifically the cut to MidState Medical Center, which is greater than \$17 million over the next three years, will unfairly burden my hospital and its ability to care for our patient population.
- In this climate of rapidly changing healthcare laws and regulations, with reductions in reimbursements for Medicare and now further cuts in extremely poor Medicaid reimbursement, the ability for MidState Medical Center to continue to provide state-of-the-art healthcare will be affected.
- MidState is a proactive and forward-thinking organization. The hospital has made efforts to continually invest in the newest technologies, like the DaVinci robot, hybrid operating room and low dose CT scanner, as well as recruit and retain an exceptional medical staff to provide Meriden patients with 24/7 accessible and high quality care.
- Within the Hartford HealthCare System, everyone is working to reduce budgets and find ways to provide better care at a lower cost. Plans to strengthen coordinated care and implement the electronic health record are two examples. This investment in our future will be

irreparably harmed if these cuts are allowed to materialize.

- I ask that the committee re-evaluate the proposed budget cuts and understand that there will be unintended consequences that will effect those who depend on us the most.