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160 St. Ronan Street, New Haven, CT 06511-2390 (203) 865-0587 FAX (203) 865-4997

Connecticut State Medical Society Testimony in Support of House Bill 6320
An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage of Orally
and Intravenously Administered Medications
Insurance and Real Estate Committee
February 5, 2013

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, on behalf of the more than 7,000 members of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS), thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony to you today in support of House Bill 6320 An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage of Orally and Intravenously Administered Medications. This legislation requires that coverage for orally administered medications for treatment or palliation or therapeutic intervention for the prevention of disabling or life-threatening chronic diseases be no less favorable than intravenously administered medications.

CSMS has consistently testified before this and other committees regarding the issue of medical necessity. It is our policy that any service deemed medically necessary by a physician should be covered under insurance policies for the care and treatment of patients. Unfortunately, the unwillingness of health insurers to routinely cover medically necessary services often leads to the need for legislation requiring coverage. This is such a situation.

In a situation where coverage is provided for medications for the treatment or palliation or therapeutic intervention for the prevention of disabling or life-threatening chronic diseases, the determination of the best delivery mechanism either intravenously or orally should be made by the treating physician. Should oral administration be determined as the most appropriate manner, coverage should be provided equally, ensuring the patient receives needed care.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony to you today.