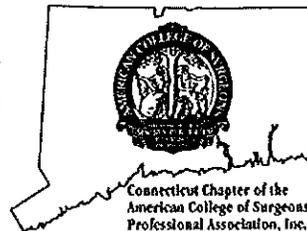
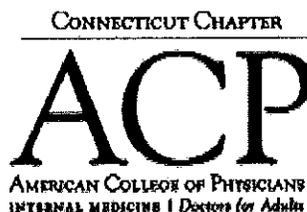


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**Connecticut State Medical Society Testimony in Opposition of  
HB 5636 AAC Coverage for Breast Thermography  
Insurance and Real Estate Committee  
February 19, 2013**

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, on behalf of the 8,500 physicians and physician-in-training members of Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) and the Connecticut Chapters of the American College of Physicians (ACP) and the American College of Surgeons (ACS) thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to you today in opposition to House Bill 5636, An Act Concerning Coverage for Breast Thermography.

In our brief comments we must point out that the use of thermography is not the standard of care for identifying and treating breast cancer in Connecticut or elsewhere. No other statement needs to be made other than to mention that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) currently warns that thermography is an unproven method and should not be substituted for mammograms at this point in time.

We know of no other circumstances in which insurance coverage is required for anything unapproved by the FDA or questioned by the medical community.

Please oppose HB 5636 AAC Coverage for Breast Thermography as it is not the appropriate time to approve an untested and unconfirmed medical diagnostic and treatment modality for breast cancer when the known methods, mammograms, are much more recognized and effective today in assisting physicians in the identification of breast cancer.