

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
FEBRUARY 20, 2013**

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Assistant Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents approximately 10,000 businesses throughout Connecticut and the vast majority of these are small companies employing less than 50 people.

Thank you for the opportunity to express CBIA's comments in **opposition to SB 60**, An Act Concerning a Single Payer Health Care System.

The most effective way to increase access to health care is by decreasing cost and increasing choice – both of which the private market is well equipped to provide. That is why CBIA supports a robust private health insurance market where competition drives customer service and pricing. On the other hand, a single payer health care system would stifle competition and innovation.

Furthermore, implementation of the federal health care legislation is well underway and changing course before realizing the effects of this new, game-changing legislation is premature.

Thirdly, a single payer system will specifically hurt Connecticut's economy by crippling the private health care industry that employs many of Connecticut's residents and drives our economy forward.

In conclusion CBIA strongly believes that the greatest access can be achieved by decreasing cost and increasing choice both of which are driven by the private market. Further, and unique to Connecticut, a single payer system would devastate our substantial private health care industry that provides many jobs to Connecticut residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer CBIA's comments in **opposition to SB 60**.