



MILFORD HOSPITAL

**TESTIMONY OF MILFORD HOSPITAL
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Friday, March 15, 2013**

SB 968, An Act Concerning Reports Of Nurse Staffing Levels

Milford Hospital appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony concerning SB 968, An Act Concerning Reports of Nurse Staffing Levels.

This bill would require hospitals to submit annual reports on prospective nurse staffing plans and quarterly reports of actual daily staffing. If passed, it would place a significant administrative burden on our hospital and others and would have no meaningful impact on the delivery of safe, quality patient care.

Hospitals, like many businesses are being asked to do more with less. Adding a layer of required documentation and more meetings is counterproductive to running in an efficient manner. Allocation of the resources we have available to us are best focused at the bedside to provide safe quality patient care.

We already have metrics in place to gauge the quality of the care we are delivering, including Press Ganey, HCAHPS and core measures. Careful consideration is given to staffing on an hour by hour basis contingent on patient acuity, activity and volume. There are constant adjustments necessary throughout the day because of the fluid, rapidly changing nature of the work. The complexities of staffing are not captured simply by counting and tallying numbers.

To focus our resource on patient care and concentrate resources where they are best serving our patients, we would urge you not to support SB 968. Thank you for considering our position on this matter. Please feel free to contact us with questions or additional information.