



Office of the
Healthcare
Advocate
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**Testimony of Victoria Veltri
State Healthcare Advocate
Before the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee
In support of the House Joint Resolution Appointing Sarah Eagan as Child Advocate
March 4, 2014**

Good afternoon, Senator Lonney, Representative Janowski, Senator Fasano, Representative Camillo, and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. For the record, I am Victoria Veltri, State Healthcare Advocate with the Office Healthcare Advocate ("OHA"). OHA is an independent state agency with a three-fold mission: assuring managed care consumers have access to medically necessary healthcare; educating consumers about their rights and responsibilities under health plans; and, informing you of problems consumers are facing in accessing care and proposing solutions to those problems.

Today I write to support the nomination of Sarah Eagan as the Child Advocate for the State of Connecticut. Sarah brings a depth of experience to the position of Child Advocate that is necessary to carrying out the broad and critical mission of the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA). Already in her tenure, we have worked collaboratively on an independent study of the Behavioral Health Partnership and on the Behavioral Health Taskforce established by P.A. 13-3. Ms. Eagan has also provided valuable input on key recommendations for health reform under the State Innovation Model Initiative, directed by OHA.

A creative and incredibly bright thinker, Sarah brings a wealth of innovative ideas to her watchdog role of Child Advocate. My experience with Sarah is that she brings critical thinking and energy to the position that is essential to her role and to continuously improving our collective mission to serve Connecticut's children appropriately, efficiently and effectively.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to deliver OHA's testimony today. If you have any questions concerning my testimony, please feel free to contact me at victoria.veltri@ct.gov.