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## State of Connecticut

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Good Afternoon Chairmen Megna and Crisco, Ranking Members Sampson and Kelly and Members of the Insurance Committee. I am here today to testify in support of **Raised Bill Number 190: An Act Requiring Health Insurance Coverage for Tomosynthesis for Breast Cancer Screenings.**

I would like to thank the Insurance Committee for raising this important concept that I proposed earlier this session.

Connecticut is a leader in providing excellent insurance coverage for breast cancer screening for women. Early detection of breast cancer is imperative to ensure a high survival rate against this deadly disease. If caught early, women with breast cancer can go on to lead full and healthy lives after treatment. Currently, Connecticut law requires health insurance policies to provide coverage for mammograms for women over thirty-five. Additionally, Connecticut law requires insurance coverage for MRIs or ultrasounds screenings if a woman has dense breasts.

This bill enhances the options for breast cancer screenings by adding tomosynthesis to the type of screening that must be covered by insurance. Tomosynthesis is an FDA approved method of mammography that produces three dimensional images of the breast. Tomosynthesis can provide clearer and more accurate views of the breast allowing doctors to more effectively pinpoint the location, size and shape of any abnormalities.

I urge the Insurance Committee to pass Raised Bill Number 190 to require health insurance coverage for tomosynthesis to provide women in Connecticut with access to an important tool in the early detection of breast cancer.