



Quality is Our Bottom Line

FTR

Insurance Committee Public Hearing

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Connecticut Association of Health Plans

Testimony in Opposition to

**S.B. No. 197 AA DECREASING THE TIME FRAMES FOR
URGENT CARE ADVERSE DETERMINATION REVIEW REQUESTS**

The Connecticut Association of Health Plans respectfully urges the Committee's rejection of SB 197 An Act Decreasing the Time Frames for Urgent Care Adverse Determination Review Requests. Just last year, the legislature passed Public Act 13-3 which reduced the said timelines specifically associated with mental health and substance abuse coverage determinations. While it was determined by policymakers and other stakeholders to be a warranted change for these select services, taking the proposal one step further and requiring the 24 hour provision for all urgent care requests should be rejected. Please note that such specifications demand that additional staff and resources be employed by health plans at considerable expense at the same time mounting pressure is being exerted on carriers to reduce administrative expenses and bring the costs of health care down. As a matter of public policy, we can't continue to add burdensome requirements and expect to reduce costs. It's simply counterintuitive and we hope the committee will acknowledge that dynamic and choose not to move forward with SB 197.

Thank you for your consideration.