

**Public Health Committee  
March 14, 2014**

**Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists Testimony in Support of HB 5537  
An Act Concerning the Department of Health's Recommendations Regarding Various  
Revisions to the Public Health Statutes**

Good morning, Chairwomen Gerratana and Johnson and Ranking Members: Senator Welch and Representative Srinivasan. My name is Dr. Keith Ruskin and I am the President of the Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists (CSSA). I would like to submit testimony in support of House Bill 5537, "An Act Concerning the Department of Health's Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes."

The bill strikes old anesthesia accreditation language, section 51 of the bill strikes section 19a-691 of current statute that governs the use of "deep" sedation in health care settings and complies with current language and the practice of DPH to allow the use of "deep" sedation only in a hospital, outpatient clinic, or dentist's office. CSSA supports the deletion of this language because it is in the best interest of patient safety that only accredited and licensed institutions be allowed to administer "deep" sedation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of HB 5537.

Sincerely,  
Keith Ruskin, M.D.