



## Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants

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### CONNECTICUT ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

#### Testimony on Raised Bill 257, “An Act Concerning Hepatitis C Testing”

#### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MARCH 14, 2014

Rep. Johnson, Sen. Gerratana, and members of the Public Health Committee,

The Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants, ConnAPA, is the sole organization representing the interests of the nearly 2000 practicing physician assistants in our state. I am Dan Mussen, a member of our legislative committee, and in practice now as a PA for 38 years, 32 of those years being in primary care settings.

Physician Assistants are of course, key providers of primary health care. Our profession is a leader in the delivery of team based, high quality, cost effective health and preventative medical care.

Raised bill 257, “An Act Concerning Hepatitis C Testing” seeks to require certain patients be offered hepatitis C testing. PAs currently test for hepatitis C as part of their routine medical care, and therefore should be including in this bill as one of the primary care providers.

If PAs are not included as primary care providers in this bill, an unintended exemption will occur. Other PCPs will be required to offer hepatitis C testing, but PAs will not be required to do so. We do not believe that is the intent of this committee.

Thank you for your generous consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Mussen PA  
Member, ConnAPA Legislative Committee