



Dear Public Health Committee Members,

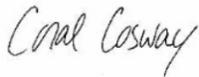
On behalf of National Stroke Association, thank you for sponsoring SB 438 which includes a number of provisions to improve the treatment of stroke in Connecticut. This is an important part of developing a strong stroke system of care in your state.

Your stroke system of care legislation is important to the stroke community for many reasons. Because every second counts when someone is having a stroke, getting stroke patients to proper treatment is crucial. It can give patients a better chance of survival and a better quality of life after a stroke. Stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S., and in 2010 alone, 137,000 people died as a direct result of it. Additionally, improved recoveries can also mean that patients will require fewer healthcare services over the long term. This has the potential to reduce healthcare costs for your state and the entire healthcare system.

At National Stroke Association, we focus 100 percent of our resources and attention on stroke. Our Stroke Advocacy Network consists of over 11,000 stroke survivors, caregivers, family members and stroke-associated healthcare professionals. The network helps these advocates share their stroke-related experiences, challenges and needs with legislators like you and your colleagues in the Minnesota legislature.

On behalf of the stroke community, we commend you for your work to build a strong stroke system of care in your state. Please know that you have our full support.

Sincerely,



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National Stroke Association is the only national nonprofit healthcare organization focusing 100 percent of its resources and attention on stroke. Our mission is to reduce the incidence and impact of stroke by developing compelling education and programs focused on prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and support for all impacted by stroke.

We are [notifying our advocates in Connecticut about this legislation](#) asking them to take action by communicating with their legislators about it.