



Quality is Our Bottom Line

FTR

Insurance Committee Public Hearing

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Connecticut Association of Health Plans

Testimony Submitted in Opposition to

SB 233 AA Adding Volunteer Fire Departments and Volunteer Firefighters to the Partnership Plan

The Connecticut Association of Health Plans respectfully urges the Committee's opposition to SB 233 AA Adding Volunteer Fire Departments and Volunteer Firefighters to the Partnership Plan. Connecticut's health insurance exchange, known as Access Health, is well underway and by all accounts is the most successful marketplace in the country. Efforts to create a competing purchasing pool under the Comptroller's office has the potential to undermine to goals and mission of the Affordable Care Act and we would urge your rejection of proposals like SB 233 that seek to expand the Partnership Plan beyond its current purview of municipalities and non-profits.

Participation in the exchange allows individuals to purchase a benefit package that best meets their individual needs whether that be at the bronze, silver, gold or premium level and it also provides a choice among carriers. Likewise, the small employer health option known as SHOP is also available. We would encourage the Committee to lend its support to the operations and functions of Access Health rather than to invest in another Partnership endeavor.

Thank you for your consideration.