UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE
FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

Testimony Regarding
Senate Bill 807: An Act Concerning Fairness and Efficiency in Health Insurance Cotnracting
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Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut
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Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut (UHCF) is an independent, nonprofit foundation working to shape our state's health care system to provide quality, affordable care and promote good health for all state residents.

Senate Bill 807 is part of a larger package of bills, most of which were heard in the Public Health Committee's public hearing last Wednesday, March 11, 2015. SB 807 discusses creating a new, tiered provider network insurance plan design, creating standards for information provided to consumers, making changes to how hospitals and insurers negotiate, and shifting how reimbursement rates are set.

There are several proposed bills attempting to address many of the state's current health care challenges. While a move in the right direction, our concern is that this proposal would be more effective if incorporated into an omnibus bill. We believe the best course is to make sure legislation helps us achieve long-term, sustainable solutions.

I urge you to watch Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's short video testimony and check out our complete written testimony and supporting resources on the web at; ***bit.ly/uhcf-legislative***

We can learn much from other states, such as Massachusetts, Vermont, Oregon and Washington—all of which have an "authority" of some sort that brings together health care planning and policymaking to best serve the health care interests of each state. These states are trying to look at the whole picture. We do not have a coordinated, cohesive approach in Connecticut and it is to the detriment of the families, businesses, communities and taxpayers of this state.

What we really need is an omnibus bill that incorporates components of Senate Bills 810 through 815, as well as House Bill 6938 and Senate Bill 916--and possibly more ideas, which could include concepts from Senate Bills 807 and 808. We ask legislative leaders to work to craft a bill across committees with input from stakeholders including consumers, providers and payers. We believe that such a bill can build on current positive work being done in Connecticut and help realize visionary, strategic and sustainable solutions to our shared health care challenges.

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