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**Connecticut State Medical Society Testimony on House Bill 6265 An Act Concerning
Prescription Drug Monitoring
Public Health Committee
March 4, 2015**

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the physicians and physicians in training of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS), thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to you today on **House Bill 6265 An Act Concerning Prescription Drug Monitoring.**

CSMS is proud of its efforts working in conjunction with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) and members of the General Assembly to originally obtain a federal grant for the development of the prescription monitoring program (PMP), its original piloting through the efforts of several CSMS physicians and ultimately the support of the State to maintain the program. In addition, CSMS was pleased to work with the General Assembly and once again DCP to support the requirement that all prescribers register for its use when seeking or renewing a license to practice.

CSMS understands and agrees with the considerable attention already this session being given to a significant problem facing our society- opioid and controlled substance abuse. We remain committed to working with members of this committee and others as we move forward and offer the resources and expertise of our Society and its members to develop the best possible legislation to address this issue. Legislation that hopefully focuses on deterrence and a reduction of abuse as well as an increase in focus and resources provided to treatment and coverage for substance abuse and addiction.