



Written Testimony of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society

Opposing Senate Bill 810 An Act Establishing A Special Commission on Provider Price Variation and Reform

Public Health Committee – March 11, 2015

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the more than 250 orthopaedic surgeons of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 810, AA Establishing A Special Commission on Provider Price Variation and Reform.

The establishment of Committee to identify causes of price variation and recommend policy changes is yet just another vehicle for the state legislature to infringe on the private business practices of physicians. The insurance reimbursement rates for health care services are voluntarily agreed upon and independently contracted by solo and group practice. In a free market, such as the United States, prices for goods and services are set freely by consent between the seller (Physician) and buyer (Health Insurance Carriers), with little or no control by the government.

This bill intends to not only obtain pricing from confidential contract negotiations but also determine quality based on the pricing and then to dictate future policy to reduce price differentials through government intervention.

The orthopaedic surgeons in CT ask you to oppose this bill and preserve the free market of private business. We thank you for your serious consideration and we appreciate your time in reviewing our written testimony submission.

Submitted by:

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