

Dear sirs/Madames,

I am writing to encourage you to support HB 5493. ASCs in Connecticut provide high quality care for lesser costs than hospitals. They run on thin margins and the 6% tax could be devastating to many. Closure of ASCs would lead to higher costs for life saving procedures, partially manifested as higher co pays, decreasing access to them. And ultimately increasing the cost of health care where the procedure would be more expensive for payors and less comfortable for patients who prefer to have these procedures done in ASCs than in hospitals.

Thank you.

Ed Levine, MD