



Access Health CT Testimony in Support of  
**SENATE BILL 368: AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE OF SINGLE PURPOSE  
DENTAL HEALTH CARE CENTERS.**

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Thursday, March 10, 2016

1:00 PM in Room 2D of the Legislative Office Building

Chairmen Crisco and Megna, Ranking Members Kelly and Sampson and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 368: AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE OF SINGLE PURPOSE DENTAL HEALTH CARE CENTERS.

The Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, dba Access Health CT ("Access Health CT"), was created by the Legislature for the purpose of implementing the Affordable Care Act in the State of Connecticut. Our mission is to increase the number of insured residents, improve health care quality, lower costs and reduce health disparities through an innovative, competitive marketplace that empowers consumers to choose the health plan and provider that give them the best value.

Oral health care and access to oral health care are very important components of increased health outcomes. SB 368 would improve access to oral health care in

Connecticut by allowing more dental care insurers to market their products in this state, thereby increasing competition and providing consumers with more options. Access Health CT believes that SB 368 is consistent with the Affordable Care Act; furthers the spirit of Access Health CT's mission, and is consistent with the regulations of health care centers in other states.

Passage of this bill would bring an antiquated state law passed in 1971, requiring that health care centers provide an array of services that include dental, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by allowing for dental only health care centers. This will result in more choices and access to dental care services for Connecticut residents.

Access Health CT respectfully requests that the members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee support Senate Bill 368.