



Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants

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TESTIMONY by
The Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants (ConnAPA) for the
Insurance and Real Estate Committee Public Hearing on
Senate Bill 370, An Act Concerning Health Care Provider Lists and Authorizing Pregnancy as a
Qualifying Event for Special Enrollment Periods

March 10, 2016

The Connecticut Academy of Physician Assistants would like to offer brief comments on Senate Bill 370, *An Act Concerning Health Care Provider Lists and Authorizing Pregnancy as a Qualifying Event for Special Enrollment Periods*. It is the latter subject, authorizing a pregnancy, that is of interest to us.

The bill permits a physician or advanced practice registered nurse to make the pregnancy certification. This occurs in lines 69—72 and lines 193—199.

ConnAPA would request that you add “a physician assistant licensed under chapter 270” in both places.

If Physician Assistants are not included here, it will negatively impact our practice and residents’ access to insurance and health care. In Connecticut, Physician Assistants practice medicine with nearly identical clinical roles and responsibilities as APRNs and often with APRNs as colleagues in the same clinic, hospital or other health care facility. Along with our physician colleagues, PA and APRN practice authority and responsibilities are exercised not only in primary care settings but also in many other settings including urgent care, emergency care, specialty care clinics from orthopedics to oncology, hospital based medicine units, intensive care units, and specialty intensive care units.

Thank you.