March 14, 2016

Support RB 433 - An Act Concerning Standards and Requirements for Health Carriers' Provider Networks and Contracts between Health Carriers and Participating Providers

Oppose RB 372 - An Act Concerning Clinical Review Criteria for Utilization Review and Adverse Determination Notices

Dear Senator Crisco, Representative Megna, and Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

The Connecticut Psychological Association (CPA) ***supports*** **Section 1 of RB 433, An Act Concerning Standards and Requirements for Health Carriers' Provider Networks and Contracts Between Health Carriers and Participating Providers.** Section 1 addresses network adequacy of insurance panels in Connecticut. This is an important step towards ensuring access to providers skilled in multiple domains.

The Connecticut Psychological Association (CPA) ***opposes*** **RB 372, An Act Concerning Clinical Review Criteria for Utilization Review and Adverse Determination Notices.** This bill removes the need for evidenced-based criteria and instead allows insurers to develop their own clinical criteria for behavioral health treatment. In effect, insurers will potentially be able to deny treatment or claims based on subjective criteria which may not best serve patients, and at the same time the vague language in the bill will make it more difficult to patients to appeal such denials.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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