Written Testimony of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society

House Bill 351 AN ACT CONCERNING MATTERS AFFECTING PHYSICIANS AND HOSPITALS

Public Health Committee – March 7, 2016

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the more than 200 orthopaedic surgeons of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony concerning, House Bill 351 AN ACT CONCERNING MATTERS AFFECTING PHYSICIANS AND HOSPITALS.

With the health care landscape rapidly changing and evolving, the Society appreciates the opportunity to work with this Committee to provide guidance and input on matters concerning physicians and their practices.

Physicians need the flexibility to react and respond to forces within the healthcare environment. This Committee’s willingness to temper onerous contractual obligations, often demanded from physicians, will provide more freedom to respond to an ever-changing healthcare landscape, where practice circumstances outpace the original circumstances of an employment contract.

The Society is in support of the modification (found in Section 6) made to delete the requirement for referring physicians to provide the patient with the Internet Web Site and toll free number of the health carrier will alleviate some administrative hassle in the physicians’ office and should in fact be the responsibility of the health insurance carrier and the patient.

On behalf of the Connecticut Orthopaedic Society, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback regarding this important bill and we respectfully ask the Committee to give serious consideration to the requested amendments as outlined in the testimony.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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