CONNECTICUT CENTER
FOR PATIENT SAFETY
QUALITY HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT.

**HOUSE BILL 5620**
**INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE**
**PUBLIC HEARING: 3/15/16**

**House Bill 5620--** ***AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR OPIOID ANALGESICS AND REQUIRING A STUDY OF IMPEDIMENTS TO INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENTS.***

**The Connecticut Center for Patient Safety** applauds the Insurance & Real Estate Committee for proposing legislation which is designed to limit the potential of unlimited insurance coverage for opioid analgesics. This is a step in the right direction.

In addition, we are respectfully requesting your Committee to consider amending this bill to match a proposal from Massachusetts that limits physicians from prescribing more than a 7-day supply of prescription opioids. It is very clear in this day and age that the less opioids are used; the less likely that innocent patients will become addicts.

We also support **Section 3** of this bill that requires the Insurance Commissioner to review appropriate treatments for substance abuse disorders. We all know that some citizens will unfortunately become addicted to harmful substances – both legal and illegal – so our community's investment in appropriate treatment programs is the real measure of the humanity of our society.

Thank you for proposing House Bill 5620.

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