www.prohealthmd.com

Enfield Pediatric Associates
Ross W. Porter, MD
Nicole M. Frost, APRN

Testimony of Dr. Ross Porter, Enfield Pediatric Associates, 155 Hazard Avenue, Suite 14, Enfield, CT to the Appropriations Committee regarding

An Act Concerning the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June Thirtieth 2019 and Making Appropriations Therefor

February 23, 2017

Members of the Appropriations Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I have been a pediatrician here in Connecticut for over 25+ years. I am submitting this testimony as a pediatrician in support of restoring funding for Easy Breathing in the State budget.

Asthma is the most common chronic disease of childhood and the leading cause of school absenteeism. Asthma disproportionately affects low-income children and children of color, the children that I take care of in my clinic every day. *Easy Breathing* is an asthma management program that has translated the National Asthma Guidelines into 4 elements for use by pediatric, primary care physicians. The appropriate identification, classification and treatment of children with asthma is the foundation of the Easy Breathing program and clearly results in decreased utilization of acute care services. This results in huge health care savings.

Our clinic has been using Easy Breathing for 10 years. We have witnessed firsthand, the benefits of Easy Breathing. Not only does this program make my work as a pediatrician easier, but it improves the quality of the care that I am able to deliver to our patients with asthma. More importantly, the families I care for are able to easily understand the asthma treatment plans and materials provided to them through the program, which are available in English, Spanish and more than 10 other languages.
Since the beginning of the program, Dr. Cloutier and now Dr. Simoneau have demonstrated the clear cost savings associated with using Easy Breathing and we urge you to restore funding for Easy Breathing in the 2018 State budget.

Again, thank you for your time and please consider supporting this cost-saving program.

Ross W Porter MD

Sincerely,

Ross W. Porter, MD
RWP/kgg

155 Hazard Avenue, Suite 14, Enfield, CT 06082
Phone: (860) 749-3169 • Fax: (860) 749-2670

Scanned by CamScanner