



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
of the American College of Surgeons
Professional Association, Inc.



**Testimony in OPPOSITION to
Senate Bill 300 *An Act Concerning Collaborative Arrangements Between Physician Assistants
And Physicians* Public Health Committee
March 16, 2018**

Senator Gerratana, Senator Somers, Representative Steinberg and members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the physicians and physicians in training of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) and the CT Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, please accept this testimony in opposition to **Senate Bill 300 An Act Concerning Collaborative Arrangements Between Physician Assistants And Physicians.**

CSMS gladly participated in one of the first ever scope review committee established by Public Act 11-209. That productive process led not to the release of a report to the General Assembly from the Department of Public Health (DPH), but rather proposed legislation to drastically change current statutes to more appropriately allow physician assistants to practice to the fullest of their training and capabilities. Now, we are back again a few short years later responding to proposed legislation which would not only significantly change the scope of practice for physician assistants, but allow a level of independence not seen in any state. Furthermore, the structure of collaboration sought in this legislation contradicts the training and fundamentals of their practice in which they are to be “physician assistants.”

Physician assistants are valuable members of the healthcare team. They are well trained to deliver the services they provide. However, given that the scope of practice was recently altered and no evidence that the training and education of physician assistants has changed in the interim, CSMS is concerned with the significance of this proposal and its potential impact on the healthcare delivery system. In addition, while this proposal has been submitted to the Department of Public Health’s Scope of Practice Review Process, the Department has determined more than once, that it is not appropriate for review.

Given lack of evidence and no demonstration of necessity for the scope of practice change, we must ask you to oppose SB 300.