



# Community Health Center Association of Connecticut

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Testimony of

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Supporting

*SB 876: An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State  
for Capital Improvements, Transportation and Other Purposes*

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

March 15, 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of SB 876: An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements, Transportation and Other Purposes.

On behalf of the Community Health Center Association of Connecticut (CHCACT), and its sixteen member federally-qualified health centers, I want to thank the Committee for raising this bill. Connecticut's federally-qualified health centers serve almost 400,000 people each year, providing medical, behavioral health and dental care in over 100 locations across the state, including stand-alone sites, as well as within schools, homeless shelters and through mobile vans.

**CHCACT supports this bill**, specifically Section 24(a), which authorizes \$25 million for grants-in-aid in FY '21 for nonprofit health and human service providers through the Nonprofit Grant Program. On behalf of CHCACT, I respectfully request that the Committee provide this same level of funding for FY '20 as well.

This grant program helps nonprofit providers, like health centers, improve health care delivery, while enhancing efficiency. For example, enhancements to health IT systems, coupled with training, can lead to better data analysis, to data-driven decision making, and, ultimately, to better health outcomes. Moreover, trends in the health care system are for providers to be able to share data with each other. Health centers and other nonprofits need programs like the Nonprofit Grant program to make those investments.

CHCACT believes that investments in the state's health centers and other nonprofits are truly investments in Connecticut's people. The Nonprofit Grant Program creates room for growth in the nonprofit industry, allowing nonprofits to employ more people, serve more people, and contribute more to Connecticut's economy.

Thank you for your consideration and your hard work on behalf of our great state. Please feel free to reach out with any questions: [dpolun@chcact.org](mailto:dpolun@chcact.org) or 860.667.7820.