



Testimony of Matthew Winters, RN
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SB 1076 AAC Public-Private Partnerships and Privatization of State Services at the University of Connecticut Health Center

Government Administration and Elections Committee
March 26, 2021

Senator Flexer, Representative Fox and members of the Government Administration and Election Committee My name is Matthew Winters and I have been a Registered Nurse at UConn since July of 2020. I am also a member of University Health Professional. I am submitting testimony in support of SB 1076 AAC Public-Private Partnerships and Privatization of State Services at the University of Connecticut Health Center

The privatization of UConn Health will lead to the organization putting profits over the well-being of patients in certain circumstances. UConn Health provides medical care to patient populations that are not necessarily cost effective and due to that, other healthcare organizations do not provide the care these patients need. UConn Health gives these patients a means to a better life. A prime example of this is the program UConn Health has for patients with sickle cell anemia.

UConn provides exceptional care to these patients that live with chronic, excruciating pain that cannot be treated with conventional pain management methods alone. Care for these patients is not very cost effective but UConn Health takes it on anyways because we are here to care for the people in this state.

I understand the state is not in great financial standing and the budget for things needs to be adjusted. We are hopefully reaching the end of a pandemic. We have been working very hard during this pandemic to care for the citizens of this state. Please remember that when considering how to vote for this bill. Fixing the budget should be done in other areas.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

- Matthew Winters, RN