

## TESTIMONY OF CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION SUBMITTED TO THE INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE Thursday, March 18, 2021

## SB 1044, An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Insurance And Health Care In The State

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 1044**, **An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Insurance And Health Care In The State**. CHA supports this bill and respectfully requests an amendment.

Before commenting on this bill, it is important to acknowledge that, since early 2020, Connecticut's hospitals and health systems have been at the center of the global public health emergency, acting as the critical partner in the state's response to COVID-19. Hospitals expanded critical care capacity, stood up countless community COVID-19 testing locations, and are a critical component of the vaccine distribution plan. Through it all, hospitals and health systems have continued to provide high-quality care for everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

SB 1044 would create an eleven member task force charged with studying insurance and healthcare in this state. As providers of healthcare and the largest employers in their communities, hospitals would lend a critical perspective and understanding of the issues the task force is charged with studying.

As such, we respectfully request that the bill be amended to include a hospital representative on the task force, appointed in consultation with CHA.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.