



**TESTIMONY
OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 4, 2003**

HB 6363, An Act Concerning Medical Services For Women

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) supports **HB 6363, An Act Concerning Medical Services For Women**, which would create early detection and treatment referral programs for ovarian cancer and osteoporosis for women in unserved or underserved populations. Among women in the United States, cancer of the ovary is the fifth most frequently diagnosed cancer. There are approximately 300 Connecticut patients diagnosed with ovarian cancer every year. There are no proven methods of prevention and ovarian cancer often is a rapidly fatal disease. Osteoporosis also affects many Connecticut women. According to a DPH report, between 1993 and 1997, there were 2,827 women discharged from Connecticut acute care hospitals with a principal diagnosis of osteoporosis and another 17,046 women discharged with osteoporosis-related diagnoses. CHA supports the Legislature's effort to protect the health of Connecticut women by improving detection and treatment of ovarian cancer and osteoporosis.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

CCB:pas