



**TESTIMONY  
OF THE  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, March 7, 2002**

**HB 5557, An Act Concerning The Prevention Of Teenage Suicide**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **HB 5557, An Act Concerning The Prevention Of Teenage Suicide**. CHA and our member institutions support the Committee's efforts to address the tragedy of teenage suicide.

The bill would require the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to establish a pilot program for the prevention of teenage suicide in Bridgeport. The program would focus on early detection of conditions associated with teenage suicide, such as depression and eating disorders. Early detection is critical to addressing the needs of these teenagers and we strongly support this initiative.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.