



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

**HB 5506, An Act Studying The Liability Of Employers For Hospital Services In
Workers' Compensation Cases**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5506, An Act Studying The Liability Of Employers For Hospital Services In Workers' Compensation Cases**. CHA opposes the bill as drafted.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide core healthcare services to all of the people in Connecticut, 24 hours a day, regardless of ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals offer safe, accessible, equitable, affordable, patient-centered care that protects and improves peoples' lives.

HB 5506 would authorize the Labor Commissioner, in consultation with the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission, to conduct a study regarding employers' liability for services rendered by hospitals in workers' compensation cases. These payment schedules were changed as a result of language added to section 459 of public act 15-5 of the June special session (budget implementer bill).

Instead of the creation of a study, which we believe will not solve the problem of hospitals receiving inadequate funding for services rendered in worker's compensation cases, CHA requests that the Labor and Public Employees Committee repeal Section 459 of PA 15-5 of the June Special session.

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