

**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 16, 2017**

**HB 6708, An Act Concerning Notice To The Police Of Data Security Breaches
Involving The Disclosure Of Personal Information**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6708, An Act Concerning Notice To The Police Of Data Security Breaches Involving The Disclosure Of Personal Information.**

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide high quality care for everyone, regardless of ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals are finding innovative solutions to integrate and coordinate care to better serve patients and communities, as well as achieve health equity. These dynamic, complex organizations are working to build a healthier Connecticut. That means building a healthy economy, community, and healthcare system. By investing in the future of Connecticut's healthcare and hospitals, rather than continuing to cut away at them, we will strengthen our economy, put communities to work, and deliver affordable care that Connecticut families deserve.

HB 6708 would revise subsection (b) of Section 36a-701b of the Connecticut General Statutes to require a person who conducts business in this state and who provides notice of any breach of security regarding computerized data containing personal information to provide notice of a breach to the local police department or the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Police Protection. Notice of the breach event is already required to be sent to the Attorney General's office by law.

CHA has two primary concerns with the bill. First, police departments may lack the technical infrastructure and information security systems that would be necessary to keep this information sufficiently confidential. Likewise, it is unclear if the current state public disclosure rules would allow the breach information to be shared broadly – allowing would-be hackers and identity thieves a roadmap to potential victims and targets.

Second, it is unclear if the police will be expected to treat breach events as crimes, even though the vast majority of such breaches are likely mistakes with no criminal aspect whatsoever.

The law requires a breach report to an individual in the event an e-mail was not encrypted properly – regardless of whether there was a crime or criminal intent – and when the e-mail was otherwise properly addressed and received. Notifying police of those events is problematic and serves only to notify third parties that there may be a source of unsecure data.

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