



**TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE  
[DATE]**

**HB 5299, An Act Concerning Telehealth Prescribing For Treatment Of Psychiatric Disorders**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 5299, An Act Concerning Telehealth Prescribing For Treatment Of Psychiatric Disorders**. CHA supports this bill.

Before commenting on the bill, it's important to point out that Connecticut hospitals provide high quality care for everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Connecticut hospitals are dynamic, complex organizations that are continually working to find innovative ways to better serve patients and communities and build a healthier Connecticut. By investing in the future of Connecticut's hospitals, we will strengthen our healthcare system and our economy, put communities to work, and deliver affordable care that Connecticut families deserve.

Telehealth is a fairly new, rapidly developing method of delivering direct patient care that is becoming more commonly used in Connecticut and across the country. HB 5299 seeks to permit the prescribing of Schedule I, II, or III controlled substances through the use of telehealth for the treatment psychiatric disorders. It also seeks to require payment parity for telehealth services. CHA supports both of these measures as they seek to increase access to care overall and specifically in the area of psychiatry.

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