



**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 22, 2023**

**SB 1210, An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Issues
Concerning Rural Health**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony concerning **SB 1210, An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Issues Concerning Rural Health**.

Connecticut hospitals continue to meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and are now facing new challenges of treating sicker patients than they saw before the pandemic, with a dedicated but smaller workforce who are exemplary but exhausted. They are also experiencing significant financial hardships brought on by record inflation. Through it all, hospitals have been steadfast, providing high-quality care for everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay.

SB 1210 establishes a task force to study issues related to rural health, including the examination of the resources and services available to promote rural health and support healthcare providers in rural areas throughout the state and methods for coordinating and streamlining such resources and services.

CHA supports the creation of a task force on this critically important issue and requests the Committee to include CHA as a member of the task force.

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