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## **Connecticut Hospital Association Opposes Hospital Cuts**

WALLINGFORD – Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO of the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA), made the following statement about the \$103 million cut to hospitals as part of the deficit mitigation plan:

While we understand the difficulty of the decisions faced by legislators, and appreciate their willingness to listen to hospital concerns, we are extremely disappointed that hospitals and the patients they serve will bear the heaviest burden in carrying the cuts made to balance the state budget. This will have very real implications for patients and staff, and the impact will be felt across the state.

We already know that because of these cuts, critical hospital programs – many that help Connecticut's neediest people – may need to be eliminated. These include clinics that serve the uninsured, low-income, homeless, and frail elderly; programs that provide prenatal care; special needs programs for children and adults; and behavioral health programs. Investments in infrastructure will have to be deferred or eliminated and, unfortunately, hundreds of hospital jobs are now on the chopping block.

Hospitals have solutions that will create a more viable healthcare delivery system. We are committed to working with legislators and the administration to address the state's budget needs in a way that protects hospitals, patients, and communities.

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## **About CHA**

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.