



**TESTIMONY OF  
JOHN MURPHY, MD  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NUVANCE HEALTH  
BOARD CHAIRMAN, CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE  
APPROPRIATIONS, FINANCE, HUMAN SERVICES,  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES  
December 13, 2019**

**The Connecticut Hospital Association, et al. v. Connecticut Department of Social Services, et al. Settlement Agreement**

**An Act Concerning Implementation Of The Approved Settlement Agreement In The Connecticut Hospital Association Et Al. V. Connecticut Department Of Social Services Et Al. And Making Appropriations Therefor**

My name is John Murphy, MD, and I am the Chief Executive Officer, Nuvance Health, and the Chairman of the Connecticut Hospital Association Board of Trustees. I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide remarks in support of the hospital settlement agreement and its implementation language in **An Act Concerning Implementation of the Approved Settlement Agreement in the Connecticut Hospital Association et al. V. Connecticut Department of Social Services et al. and Making Appropriations Therefor.**

The CHA Board of Trustees has had as a priority for many years addressing the significant stress the hospital tax and low Medicaid reimbursement places on Connecticut hospitals. Adequate funding is an essential component to ensure that Connecticut residents have the very best care. We must fund talented staff, new technologies, and keep our facilities, which never close, up-to-date. Quality and patient safety are at the center of our work. They are obligations we take very seriously and they require a commitment of resources.

For many years, we have been focusing on reducing harm to patients – what we call serious safety events – through the adoption of safety principles called high reliability. Over the past 5 years, we have seen a remarkable (76%) reduction in serious safety events across the state of Connecticut. CHA is now leading the way on a new effort to address infections, and we are making important progress in improving these and other outcomes. We support a sustainable healthcare financing system that is linked to outcomes and have long advocated for a solution

that benefits our patients, our communities, and our state. That is why we are so pleased with this new direction – a positive path forward, working together to improve care and outcomes.

Hospitals' shared mission is to provide safe, high quality care for all and build a healthier Connecticut. Your support will help ensure our hospitals and those they serve are able to continue fulfilling that mission. We urge you to pass both the settlement resolution and the accompanying legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.