



**TESTIMONY OF
HARTFORD HEALTHCARE
SUBMITTED TO THE
APPROPRIATIONS, FINANCE, HUMAN SERVICES, AND PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMITTEES
Friday, December 13, 2019**

Hartford HealthCare (HHC) strongly supports **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**

HHC is a fully integrated health care system serving 159 towns in Connecticut and employing 30,000 people. The HHC hospitals included in this agreement are: The William W. Backus Hospital, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, Hartford Hospital, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, MidState Medical Center, Windham Hospital, and Saint Vincent's Medical Center.

After months of negotiating, the Lamont Administration, the Attorney General, and Connecticut hospitals have come to an agreement that will end more than four years of litigation. The agreement benefits the state, hospitals, and the patients they serve.

HHC urges legislators to pass both the settlement resolution and the accompanying legislation.

The settlement represents a return of the hospital tax to its original purpose – a means to attract federal dollars to Connecticut without being a real net tax burden to hospitals.

The settlement eliminates \$1.6 billion over the next seven years in real net tax burden to hospitals and attracts \$4 billion in federal dollars for the general fund, while eliminating a \$4 billion potential liability for the state.

Your support will help ensure our hospitals and those they serve stay healthy.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.