



**February 23, 2026**

**Testimony of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities / Connecticut Center for Assisted Living (CAHCF/CCAL) on S. B. No. AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM TO EXPAND HEALTH CARE ACCESS.**

The Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities / Connecticut Center for Assisted Living (CAHCF/CCAL), a trade association of skilled nursing facilities and assisted living communities, appreciate this opportunity to submit written testimony providing general comments concerning S. B. No. AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM TO EXPAND HEALTH CARE ACCESS.

Here are our general observations:

1. The bill expands the definition of nurse's aide to those working in "institutions" rather than just CCNHs so that includes home health, ALSA etc. CAHCF/CCAL views this as a technical change as those other provider types have other statutes and regulations which allow them to use "nurse's aides" consistent with proposed S.B. No. 93.
2. On lines 29-30 the bill reasonably expands DPH's authority to investigate and prosecute complaints against a nurse's aide working in any institution, rather than just a nursing home as the existing language technically only allows.
3. The bill understandably authorizes DPH to summarily suspend a nurse aide before a final decision on a complaint presumably to prevent such aides who are terminated for abuse in one facility to go work in another facility while an elongated agency investigation is ongoing.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit general comments on the bill.

*For additional information on this testimony, please contact Matthew Barrett, President and CEO of CAHCF/CCAL, at [mbarrett@cahcf.org](mailto:mbarrett@cahcf.org).*

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