

# Oppose Provider Fees for Connecticut Health Information Exchange (Connie)

## LEGISLATORS: DON'T SHIFT MORE COSTS ONTO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

### The Issue

The governor's midterm budget proposal cuts \$900,000 of previously allocated support for the Connecticut Health Information Exchange (Connie)

### Greater Strain on Healthcare Hurts Patients

Without state funding of Connie, costs will be unfairly left to healthcare providers and others to pay for a state-mandated system. At a time of ongoing financial strain across the healthcare delivery system, the state must show its commitment to support Connie.

### What We Support

- Sustainable state funding for Connie that does not rely on mandated healthcare providers paying fees
- A formal state study on the financial and administrative impact before any cost shift and legislative guardrails to prevent excessive or unpredictable costs
- Continued collaboration with providers to strengthen Connie's performance and governance



# OPPOSE PROVIDER FEES FOR CONNECTICUT HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE (CONNIE)

## Healthcare Providers are Already Bearing the Cost

- Healthcare providers are required by law to connect to Connie and share patient information when patients choose to provide it
- Compliance already comes with significant operational costs, including data and IT staff, legal and contracting requirements, system integration and administrative costs

## Fees Would be Influenced by Outside Parties — Without Sufficient Guardrails

- Connie has a local governing board but many of its operations are provided by an out-of-state vendor, not directly by the state
- Lack of state funding risks fees being based on external contractor needs, without statutory limits
- This creates the risk of unpredictable and escalating costs

## Lack of Oversight and Accountability

- The proposal reduces state funding without a clear plan for sustainability for Connie
- The current regulations, policies, and governance structures for Connie are insufficient to ensure its sustainability
- Without legislative action now, providers could be required to fund a system without transparency or accountability for performance, security, or cost

The state should not shift the costs of Connie onto the providers that are already mandated to participate in Connie — especially without additional oversight, transparency, or cost protections in place.

# SHIFTING CONNIE COSTS AND CREATING NEW FEES WOULD STRAIN HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND PATIENT CARE.

