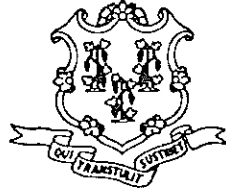


FTR



State of Connecticut
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONN. 06106

Testimony in Support of SB 276, *AA Requiring the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange to Report Certain Data and Conduct Criminal History Records Checks*
Insurance & Real Estate Committee
March 4, 2014

Chairs Crisco and Megna, Ranking Members Kelly and Sampson, and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, the House Republican Caucus would like to thank the Committee for raising SB 276, *AA Requiring the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange to Report Certain Data and Conduct Criminal History Record Checks*.

As Access Health CT (AHCT), has begun functioning and enrolling individuals in Medicaid and Qualified Health Plans, our caucus has looked at ways to improve the reporting that AHCT provides to the General Assembly and further, some possible safeguards we can put in place to protect the vital personal data of our residents who are applying to obtain health insurance through AHCT.

Our proposal would require AHCT to report to the General Assembly the number of individuals enrolled in Medicaid and in Quality Health Plans and whether or not those purchasing a quality health plan are receiving a federal subsidy on a monthly basis. We believe it is imperative that these numbers be provided to policy makers regularly so we have an accurate count of who is obtaining their insurance through AHCT, and what product they are obtaining. We also feel it is very important that AHCT report whether or not the enrollees were previously uninsured and if they were insured, the source of that insurance. The intention of the Affordable Care Act was to insure previously uninsured individuals and having this data will help us ascertain if the AHCT is being successful at this goal.

The second piece of our proposal would be to require a state and national background check for all employees, contractors or institutions receiving a grant from AHCT to assist individuals obtain health insurance. The goal is to protect our state's AHCT applicant's personal information by prescreening anyone who would come into contact with it. We feel you can't be too careful when trying to protect our residents from identity theft and that our AHCT should have the most stringent background-check requirements in the nation.

House Republicans have put forward these proposals to ensure that the General Assembly is getting an accurate picture of who is getting their health insurance through AHCT and to protect the personal information of residents that are applying. We urge the committee to favorably report SB 276 *AA Requiring the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange to Report Certain Data and Conduct Criminal History Record Checks*.