

**TESTIMONY
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
February 19, 2020**

**HB 5005, AN ACT ADJUSTING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING
JUNE THIRTIETH 2021**

Yale New Haven Health supports HB 5005, AA Adjusting the State Budget for the Biennium ending June 30, 2021, as it relates to the Hospital Settlement Agreement, unanimously adopted last December in Special Session.

Yale New Haven Health, the State's largest private employer through Bridgeport, Greenwich, Lawrence & Memorial, Yale New Haven and Westerly Hospitals, and their affiliated organizations, including the Northeast Medical Group, provides high-quality, patient care. We care for our State's most vulnerable populations. Inside our neonatal intensive care units, our teams provide lifesaving specialty care to infants who are minutes old. In the State's only Burn Center located at Bridgeport Hospital, we care for first responders who due to their efforts to save others, need our equipment, expertise and highly trained staff. Inside our children's psychiatric service, we provide care to children with mental health needs, and comfort to their families who struggle to navigate their child's needs in a challenging system. We care for children, teenagers and adults who come to us from every corner of our state.

The Fiscal Year 2021 Department of Social Services budget, included in HB 5005, reflects the Hospital Agreement supported by you and your colleagues. As you know, the Agreement continues, yet reduces the Hospital tax, which will attract an estimated four billion dollars to the State's General Fund over the next seven years. Yale New Haven Health System hospital affiliates will pay a hospital tax of nearly \$70 million this year.

We urge your support for the Hospital Agreement provisions included in HB 5005, and appreciate your past support, and consideration of our testimony.