



TESTIMONY OF
REGINALD J. EADIE, MD, MBA
PRESIDENT & CEO, TRINITY HEALTH OF NEW ENGLAND
JOHN F. RODIS, MD, MBA
PRESIDENT, SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER
STEVEN SCHNEIDER, MD, MBA
PRESEDENT, SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL
STUART ROSENBERG, MBA
PRESIDENT, JOHNSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

SUBMITTED TO THE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 19, 2020

**HB 5005, An Act Adjusting The State Budget For The Biennium Ending
June 30, 2021**

Trinity Health Of New England is honored to submit written testimony in support of **HB 5005, An Act Adjusting The State Budget For The Biennium Ending June 30, 2021** as it relates to the Hospital Agreement

Trinity Health Of New England includes Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital in Hartford; Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury; and Johnson Memorial Hospital in Stafford Springs. In addition, our ministry includes physician practices, an ambulatory services network, and post-acute care services. We are more than 13,000 health care providers committed to being a transforming and healing presence in the communities we serve. Our hospitals provide more than 265,000 emergency department visits, 40,000 surgeries and 5,000 births annually. We do more than treat illness and injury. We are helping to build a healthier Connecticut by improving community health, managing chronic illness, expanding access to primary care, preparing for emergencies and addressing social determinants of health.

After months of negotiation, Governor Lamont's Administration, the Attorney General, and Connecticut hospitals came to an agreement that ended more than four years of litigation. The agreement benefits the state of Connecticut, hospitals, and most importantly, the patients we serve. We are grateful for the unanimous legislative support the Hospital Agreement received in both the House of Representatives and Senate in December 2019. Today, we say thank you once again for your support and partnership.

The FY 21 budget of the Department of Social Services, included in HB 5005, reflects the Hospital Agreement, which was enacted in December. The Hospital Agreement represents a return of the hospital tax to its original purpose – a tool to support hospitals in improving the health of those served by the Medicaid program.

We urge your support for HB 5005, and specifically for the provisions implementing the Hospital Agreement. Your support will help ensure our hospitals, and those we serve, stay healthy. Together, we will build a healthier Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Daniel F. Keenan, Vice President Advocacy and Government Relations, Trinity Health Of New England at dkeen@trinity-health.org or 860-714-0437.