



*Quality is Our Bottom Line*

**Appropriations Committee  
Health Agencies Subcommittee  
Office of Health Strategy  
PUBLIC HEARING  
Tuesday, March 2, 2021  
Connecticut Association of Health Plans  
Testimony in Opposition  
Proposed Insurance Assessment**

On behalf of the Connecticut Association of Health Plans and our member carriers -- Aetna, Anthem, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Harvard Pilgrim, and United Healthcare -- we respectfully urge your opposition to the off-budget assessment imposed on enrollees of health insurance carriers pursuant to the authority of the Office of Health Strategies. The assessment funds are intended for deposit in the Covered Connecticut Account to fund new state subsidies for individuals on the health care Exchange among other initiatives.

New subsidies and other initiatives under consideration in the Governor's Budget may be worthy public policies, but they should be financed via a general fund appropriation rather than at the expense of one market segment over another. Affordability of coverage is a factor regardless of population and proposals that increase premiums should be disregarded particularly when additional federal funding appears to be imminent. We welcome the Governor's focus on addressing the underlying cost drivers and look forward to partnering with the Administration and other stakeholders in driving down the overall cost of health insurance coverage.

Thank you for your consideration.