



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

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Press Statement – For Immediate Release

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Foundation Lauds Bill to Provide New, Quality and Affordable Health Care Options in Connecticut

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut praised today's announcement that an agreement has been reached to move legislation this session to improve health insurance choices for small businesses, nonprofits and individuals.

"We have heard too many stories from small employers and families across the state that they cannot access the health care they need because insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs are out of control. Our state must step up and help those left behind in the current health care market," stated Frances G. Padilla, president of Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut. "This bill could make a real difference for thousands of small businesses and individuals."

The Foundation lauded several provisions in the bill, including:

- Requiring new and better options to be offered both on and off the health insurance exchange for small businesses and individuals,
- Setting up new structures for studying and addressing the underlying cost of health care in our state,
- Allowing importation of prescription drugs from Canada,
- Restoring Medicaid coverage for HUSKY A parents

"We are pleased that the bill requires study of expanding access to publicly sponsored health coverage. We thank Senator Matt Lesser, Representative Sean Scanlon and Comptroller Kevin Lembo for their leadership, as well as Governor Lamont for his support. We urge the legislature to take prompt action on this bill and send it to the Governor's desk. This is change that is long overdue," said Padilla.

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's mission is to serve as a catalyst that engages residents and communities in shaping a democratic health system that provides universal access to quality, affordable, equitable health care and promotes health in Connecticut. We believe that health care is a fundamental right and that our work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice.

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