



# UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

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## **Press Statement – For Immediate Release**

March 4, 2020

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### **Foundation president says the status quo is not cutting it.**

#### **It's time for bold change.**

Tomorrow, Frances G. Padilla, president of Universal Health Care Foundation, will speak at a press conference at 11 a.m. in support of The Connecticut Plan (SB 346). “In spite of being in this fight for 20 years, quality, affordable health care for state residents is more unattainable than ever. It’s time for big, bold change.”

“For years, our state has tinkered around the edges of making positive changes. We’ve tiptoed politely around the industry behemoths, and we’ve gotten the same results: real people rationing or forgoing care and coverage because they cannot afford it,” said Padilla.

Small businesses, which employ over 700,000 people, are the engine of our economy. The Connecticut Plan will improve employee retention and increase hiring and job creation over time. “Please don’t be taken in by the scare tactics and half-truths being peddled by paid lobbyists and the veiled threats by insurance companies to take their business or their headquarters elsewhere,” said Padilla. “Please listen, instead, to the needs of your constituents who deserve nothing less than the same quality, affordable health care that legislators enjoy.”

In its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the Foundation supports SB 346, An Act Concerning Public Options for Health Care in Connecticut and will work toward its passage. The bill is up for public hearing on March 5 at noon before the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

*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 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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