**Testimony of Victoria Veltri**
**State Healthcare Advocate**
**Before the Public Health Committee**
**In support of SB 954**
**March 11, 2015**

Good afternoon, Representative Ritter, Senator Gerratana, Senator Markley, Representative Srinivasan and members of the Public Health Committee. For the record, I am Vicki Veltri, State Healthcare Advocate with the Office Healthcare Advocate ("OHA"). OHA is an independent state agency with a three-fold mission: assuring managed care consumers have access to medically necessary healthcare; educating consumers about their rights and responsibilities under health plans; and, informing you of problems consumers are facing in accessing care and proposing solutions to those problems.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to comment in support of SB 954, AAC Transparency Of Executive Pay In Certain Hospital Transactions. This bill promotes increased transparency in hospital transactions converting a non-profit hospital to for-profit. In particular, it requires additional disclosures of the names of anyone who is an officer, director, board member or senior manager of the non-profit hospital, as well as any compensation they are expected to receive. This additional information is important for an effective and thorough review of these transactions, especially in light of the potential impact on the communities each facility serves, and in the interest of full disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to deliver OHA's testimony today. If you have any questions concerning my testimony, please feel free to contact me at victoria.veltri@ct.gov.