



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

**MAYOR SEGARRA SUPPORTS ESTABLISHING THE
CONNECTICUT HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIP
CALLS IT AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF
COLLABORATION, COOPERATION, & COST SAVINGS**

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(February 14, 2011)--- Hartford Mayor Pedro E. Segarra testified today before the Insurance and Real Estate and Public Health and Human Services committees on behalf of House Bill 6308, An Act Establishing the Connecticut Healthcare Partnership.

“It is common sense to pool and streamline the way government purchases healthcare and provides municipalities with relief from one of the most costly line items in the budget,” said Mayor Segarra. “It is not uncommon for cities and towns to see an annual rate increase of 20%. These increases outpace the cost of living and are simply unsustainable.”

Due to the bargaining power and low administrative costs, the large state employee pool has limited its increases to single digits over the past several years. The plan monitors trends and aggressively manages costs without chipping away at benefits. A similar proposal has been successfully implemented in Massachusetts and it has saved Springfield millions of dollars.

“Healthcare pooling works - the City of Hartford is currently looking to join the state prescription pool and expects it could save \$1.8 million in annual employee prescription costs. Adding new members to the state plan would result in an estimated savings of \$6 million a year for the state. This is truly an example of collaboration, cooperation, and cost savings,” remarked the Mayor.

A rebroadcast of the Mayor’s testimony can be seen on Government Cable Access Television Channel 96, which also streams live on the City’s award-winning website, www.hartford.gov. A written version of the Mayor’s submitted testimony will also be posted on the website.