Public Testimony for CON Task Force 10/17/2016 Certificate of Need Task Force ,

My name is Ocean Pellett and I am a co-chair of the Health Care Task Force of United Action CT, a faith based community organization in central and eastern CT. I live in Waterford, CT.

My concern about the Certificate of Need process is in regards to the Community Needs Assessment.

I believe the assessments should not be just a measure of the communities health status today, but they should also contain a blue print for improving the health of the community going forward.

There needs to be a commitment to improvement on the part of the hospitals and public health entities, a method to finance change for improvement and a method to monitor progress over time.

We don't want to reassess in 3 years and say "no improvement" because nothing has been done since the last assessment.

I urge you to put teeth into the certificate of need process to improve our communities health status.

Thanks you for the work you are doing.