

From: Roberta Echelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 05, 2013 1:37 PM
To: SIM, OHA
Subject: Comments on Healthcare Innovation Plan draft 1.1 (SIM)

Thank you for the opportunity to review & comment on the draft plan. I am in the process of reading & expect to provide Plan-specific comments soon. In the meantime, I thought it would be helpful for you to know that Lambda Legal has just posted a blog containing guidance to hospitals re transgender healthcare patients (link below, you may need to right click or cut & paste in browser). The transgender population is severely impacted by health providers who are poorly educated and ill-prepared, as well as health insurers whose policies are discriminatory and fail to cover medically necessary health care. The emotional, educational, economic, and social costs of the lack of sensitive, appropriate care is serious and far-reaching.

http://lambdalegal.org/blog/20131105_lgbt-advocates-issue-guidance-to-hospitals-for-treating-transgender-patients

I hope you will find this information useful in helping to give a context to the need to ensure appropriate, affordable, and accessible healthcare for Connecticut's transgender population.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Roberta S. Echelson
[REDACTED]