

Lawmakers, Advocates to Call for Action to Reduce Diaper Insecurity

*Press Conference Ahead of Public Hearing on Bill to Establish Medicaid Coverage for Diapers
Tuesday, February 21 at 10:30 a.m.*

HARTFORD – Representative Jillian Gilchrest, lawmakers, and advocates will join together on Tuesday morning to urge support for legislation that seeks to provide Medicaid coverage for diapers to help families experiencing diaper need obtain basic necessities to care for babies and young children.

WHO: Representative Jillian Gilchrest, House Chair of the Human Services Committee; (**OTHER LAWMAKERS**), the Diaper Bank of Connecticut, the Connecticut Hospital Association

WHAT: Press Conference

WHEN: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Room 1B, Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

WHY: Nearly one in three families struggle to afford diapers to keep their babies clean, dry, and healthy. Diaper insecurity is also associated with postpartum depressive symptoms and high rates of diaper rash for infants.

Lawmakers and advocates will join together ahead of a public hearing on *House Bill 6587, An Act Concerning Medicaid Coverage for Diapers*, to call for action on legislation to help Connecticut address unmet diaper need.

By making reimbursement for diapers an eligible medical expense, Connecticut can build upon the work of community organizations and programs like Diaper Connections – a diaper distribution network launched by the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA), Connecticut’s 27 acute care hospitals, and the Diaper Bank of Connecticut, with support from the Connecticut Department of Housing – to improve the health of families by preventing adverse maternal and child health conditions associated with diaper need.