



## **2010 Legislative/Advocacy Update: Total Success for CSHP**

*by Thomas Buckley, R.Ph., MPH, CSHP Legislative Chair*

The 2010 Connecticut legislative session was very active for CSHP. Among the dozens of pharmacy-related bills that were reviewed and followed by CSHP, there were four bills that received extensive attention and testimonies from CSHP members.

CSHP wishes to thank the many members and advocates who called, emailed and testified on bills of concern to CSHP. We had many examples of member interactions with legislators resulting in very favorable responses of support by the legislator. This also has been true with the enthusiastic advocacy of many University of Connecticut Pharmacy students. These students met personally with committee chairs, appeared at committee hearings, submitted testimony for the public hearings, and received supportive emails from legislators in response to their email advocacy letters.

CSHP also has been actively working with ASHP in support of federal health care reform initiatives, and encouraged by the many opportunities for pharmacy with the recently passed federal health reform bill. In addition, CSHP is represented on a Sustinet advisory committee charged with developing a “public option” insurance plan for the state of Connecticut. Sustinet is the Connecticut version of health care reform that was passed in last year’s legislative session. This is an opportunity for pharmacists to play an active role in a state medical home model and be reimbursed for wide-ranging clinical services.

[Click](#) for a description of the bills, the CSHP position on the bills, and the status of each bill.