

Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced that she has vetoed bills that would have established a Board of Directors to implement a health insurance program called Sustinet and opened the state employee health insurance program to employees of municipalities, non-profit organizations and small businesses. At the same time, Governor Rell issued an Executive Order establishing a Health Care Reform Advisory Board to develop state-level policies in response to reforms under consideration at the federal level. The bills are House Bill 6600, *An Act Concerning the Establishment of the Sustinet Plan* and House Bill 6582, *An Act Establishing the Connecticut Healthcare Partnership*.

“These are well-intentioned bills that seek to address critically important issues, but they ultimately fail to resolve the central problems of access and affordability,” Governor Rell said. “These bills also raise serious fiscal concerns that – in a time of record budget deficits, record unemployment and record business closures – simply cannot be ignored. These two bills would cost billions of dollars before any economic recovery is complete.”

For more information, please visit

<http://www.ct.gov/governorrell/cwp/view.asp?A=3675&q=443102> .