



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

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Governor Rell Honors Legislation Safeguarding Oral Chemotherapy Treatments

Governor M. Jodi Rell today praised legislation that requires insurance companies to cover chemotherapy delivered in the form of a pill the same way they cover other forms of chemotherapy.

“Cancer – in any form – is a devastating illness, and way it is treated is a decision that should be left to a patient and his or her physician,” Governor Rell said during a bill-signing ceremony in her office. “There was a time when chemotherapy meant hours of treatment receiving drugs intravenously. Advances have allowed many patients to undergo chemotherapy by taking pills. Opting for this convenience and privacy should not carry added costs.

“There is something fundamentally unfair when insurance covers 100 percent of an IV treatment but insists on sometimes costly co-payments for what is essentially the same treatment in the form of a pill,” the Governor said. “This is wise and compassionate legislation that will resolve that issue for cancer patients in our state.”

The law applies to all individual and group health policies issued, delivered, renewed, amended or continued in Connecticut that cover hospital expenses, including major medical and surgical. Because of federal law, the bill does not apply to self-insured benefit plans.

Senate Bill 50 – *An Act Concerning Oral Chemotherapy Treatments* – takes effect January 1.