

**THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF RB 7390 (LCO 5818)
AN ACT CONCERNING OVERSIGHT OF INTELLIGENCE GATHERING BY
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Commission supports section 2(b) of this bill because it would increase the amount of information that must, at a minimum, be available to the public in connection with records of arrest.

Under existing law, a “record of arrest” must always be disclosed from the time of the arrest. “Record of arrest” is currently defined as (1) the name and address of the person arrested, the date, time and place of the arrest and the offense for which the person was arrested, and (2) at least one of the following, designated by the law enforcement agency: the arrest report, incident report, news release or other similar report of the arrest of a person, Conn. Gen. Stat. sec. 1-215.

Under the terms of this bill, “the record of arrest” of any person would also include a listing of the facts and circumstances that constituted probable cause for the arrest.

The FOI Commission believes this bill would increase the openness and accountability of law enforcement agencies by requiring such agencies to disclose more information describing the circumstances of an arrest. We therefore urge you to support this bill.

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