



MADD

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Testimony of Sergeant Tom Mrozek

Before the Judiciary Committee

On Senate Bill 1348

“An Act Strengthening Drunk Driving Enforcement”

April 2, 2007

Thank you Co- Chairman Senator Andrew McDonald, Co-Chairman Michael Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee for holding this important hearing and for the opportunity to submit testimony to you today in support of Senate Bill 1348. I am Sergeant Tom Mrozek of the Fairfield Police Department. I also serve on the Executive Advisory Council for Mothers Against Drunk Driving in Connecticut.

Despite the continued efforts of law enforcement agencies, an average of one person is killed every 31 minutes and an average of one person is injured approximately every minute in an alcohol-related traffic crash.

MADD's goal is to reduce drunk driving deaths involving drivers at a .08 BAC or above by 25 percent by the end of 2008 through increased enforcement, supporting emerging and existing technology such as ignition interlocks, increased seat belt use, improvements within the DUI justice system and promoting designated drivers. SB 1348 is of critical importance to law enforcement and MADD CT – this proposed bill endorses Lt. Governor Kevin Sullivan's task force provisions from “The Sobering Truth” report. SB 1348 endorses crucial changes to the current ineffective DUI general statute.

The nation, and indeed Connecticut has grown complacent about the issue of drunk driving. The simple fact is people can drink and drive. As critical as law enforcement is to catching and deterring drunk driving, there will never be enough officers on the roads to stop every drunk driver. As a result, we must focus on proven effective laws, initiatives and technologies to eliminate drunk driving.

On behalf of all law enforcement officers and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Connecticut, I respectfully request The Judiciary Committee to support SB 1348 and JF this bill to the Senate floor.

Thank you.