



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

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**Testimony of Stephen N. Ment
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
February 28, 2007**

**Senate Bill 1245, An Act Concerning A Tender Years Exception
To The Hearsay Rule**

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in regards to **Senate Bill 1245, An Act Concerning A Tender Years Exception to the Hearsay Rule**. This bill would establish a tender years exception to the hearsay rule.

As many of you may know, the Judicial Branch has established a Code of Evidence Oversight Committee, chaired by Justice Joette Katz. In addition to Justice Katz, the committee is comprised of several judges, attorneys, and a law professor. The Committee is charged with reviewing Connecticut's Code of Evidence and proposing amendments to it as needed.

The Committee has been reviewing the issue of a tender years exception, has done extensive research on this subject, and is currently in the process of formulating thoughtful recommendations on this very sensitive issue. In fact, the Committee met just yesterday to continue their deliberations.

In light of the Committee's action, it respectfully requests, that the legislature not move forward with this legislation.