



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

Testimony of

Department of Consumer Protection
Commissioner Jerry Farrell, Jr.

Presented to the General Law Committee

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

Regarding Senate Bill No. 29

"An Act Concerning Electronic Publications of the Regulations of State Agencies."

Senator Colapietro, Representative Stone, and members of the Committee, I am Jerry Farrell, Jr., the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection. It is my pleasure to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 29, **"An Act Concerning Electronic Publications of the Regulations of State Agencies."**

The Department believes this bill will greatly assist Connecticut residents and businesses by allowing the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to be more accessible. With electronic publication, all parties will quickly and inexpensively have the most recent regulations available to them, which should greatly assist efforts to comply with the law. The Department thanks the Governor for her leadership in bringing this concept forward.

The Department of Consumer Protection has proven to be a portal for the general public in accessing information about State government through the telephone and internet, and our use of an extensive electronic database to process thousands of consumer complaints on a yearly basis will prove valuable in making additional electronic information available to the public.

In that the Department has experience in the regulation drafting process, we understand the need to quickly disseminate the final versions of regulations to interested parties and businesses, such as to license holders and those wishing to transact business within our State. Additionally, the Department has gained recent experience in using the internet for license renewals, and that experience has been very positive for both the license holders and the Department itself. The savings in mailing costs for the Department and for license holders, as well as the reduction of staff time devoted to mailing operations and the handling of paper, has proven the effectiveness of State government making use of the internet.

For the above reasons, the Department strongly favors this proposal and urges your support. The Department thanks the Chairs and members of the General Law Committee for the opportunity to present the above testimony in support of Governor's Bill No. 29.

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