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*TESTIMONY OF
ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
BEFORE THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 25, 2008*

I appreciate the opportunity to support Senate Bill 322, An Act Concerning the Service of Income Withholding Orders for Child Support Obligations.

This proposal allows for the state to serve wage withholding orders for the collection of child support on businesses through electronic means -- but only if the business agrees to such method of service.

The state of Connecticut serves thousands of wage withholding orders each year. Wage withholding is among the most effective methods of collecting child support. However, legal service on the employer of such orders is typically done by mail or in-hand service by state employees. Electronic filing of such orders would be more efficient and effective than either mail or in-hand service.

Moreover, nationally, child support enforcement agencies and the business community have been working on a uniform system of electronic filing of wage withholding orders which will greatly assist multi-state employers with large payrolls. The electronic system generates an immediate acknowledgement of the receipt of such order from the business.

Senate Bill 322 will allow businesses to join this uniform system and allow the state to legal serve wage withholding orders electronically upon the consent of the employer.

I urge the committee's favorable consideration of Senate Bill 322.