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Distinguished Senators and Representatives,

I am here as an owner of 3-D Bail Bonds, Inc., DADs Bail Bonds, LLC, and a member of the Bail Agents of Connecticut Association to testify against **HB6646** and **SB723**.

Every year for the last 6 or 7 years there have been bills introduced with the intention of regulating our industry. They always seem to die.

This year there are 5 Bills out there and for the first time agents from around the state have come together in support of 2 of them, **HB6457** from Public Safety, regarding re-qualification of Bail Enforcement Agents with their firearms and **HB6354** from The Department of Insurance regarding regulation and enforcement. **HB6354** has wide support throughout the industry and addresses many of the same things in **HB6646** of which I oppose.

HB6646 having such redundancies is not necessary and is only cluttering up the picture for bills that have support from both the industry and the Department of Insurance. Let's stop wasting our time with duplicate bills.

SB723 is an attempt to abolish the commercial bail industry all together. With unemployment at all time highs and the economy currently in the toilette, this would put over 1000 people out of work. It has been lobbied for by criminal defense attorneys who expect the court to become the collection vehicle for their attorney fees. This structure has failed miserably in Philadelphia where the City is out Billions of dollars. **This plan will fail here as well.**

If \$300,000,000 in bail is written each year, the premiums would equal \$30,000,000 of which the attorneys will be salivating over the \$22.5 Million they stand to grab in premiums that they would swipe from the court. There will be no incentive to let cases run their due course, other than to get it over with quick and get paid. **Isn't that a conflict of interest?**

So the court keeps \$7.5 Million to pay for it's expenses. Big deal. Who goes after defendants who fail to appear? At my company that's me. Our company over the last 3 years closed over \$17 Million in forfeitures. Over 1200 defendants in the last 3 years and over 5000 defendants in the company's history. We have spoken to and got defendants back from everywhere. Mexico, Dominican Republic, England, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, and all US states are some examples. There are over 300 Bail Enforcement Agents in The State of CT who at no cost to tax payers handle the case load of people who fail to appear on bonds. The police departments are already busy enough and don't want this extra burden. So what do we do? Replace 300 Bail Enforcement Agents with 300 new police officers? A new police officer will cost in excess of \$100,000 a year with benefits, overtime, and pensions. So $300 \times 100,000 = 30,000,000$ **\$30,000,000 a year. Is this a good idea?**

Heck no!!

And if you think the Taxpayers of The State Connecticut want to foot that bill, you are crazy.

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