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March 11, 2009

State of Connecticut
General Assembly
Committee on Transportation

Dear Committee Member,

RE: Act Concerning Fingerprinting Methods Used by the DMV

All-Star Transportation is a school bus contractor in the State of Connecticut which serves twenty one (21) school districts. We operate approximately five hundred (500) school vehicles daily. We are primarily located in Litchfield County.

Since June 2008 through February 2009 we have had fifty four (54) employees licensed for CDL with school bus endorsement. The fingerprinting process has taken an average of eight (8) weeks for these employees to receive their verification letters to be licensed. One employee took twenty two (22) days while another took ninety five (95) days to receive the letter needed to be licensed and secure their employment. Many employees call the Department of Motor Vehicles to inquire and get the same answer that "the letter will be in the mail soon". We provide our employees with a minimum of twenty hours of classroom training as well as a minimum of forty (40) behind the wheel training. Employees are typically ready in five (5) weeks to be tested but cannot because they must wait for their clearance letter to arrive by mail.

Electronic fingerprinting would streamline this process. It would allow our employees to secure full status employment quicker and allow them to have the financial security they are seeking with employment.

Your approval of this act would have a substantial impact for the school bus contractors as well as the employees that are trying to secure their employment status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie Sheldon", is written over a horizontal line.

Leslie Sheldon
Operations Manager