



GENERAL ASSEMBLY Judiciary Committee

Senator Andrew MacDonald, Co-Chair
Representative Michael Lawlor, Co-Chair
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Public Hearing on SB 221, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCLOSURE OF
EMPLOYEE FILES TO INMATES.

Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Mark Lucey and I am a Lieutenant with the Department of Correction. I am also the Executive Vice President of the Correction Supervisors Council of CSEA/SEIU 2001. I am submitting this testimony in support of Senate Bill 221, AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCLOSURE OF EMPLOYEE FILES TO INMATES.

Due to the nature of our work, we come into contact with some of Connecticut's most dangerous residents; for that reason it is out of an understandable concern for our personal safety - and that of our families - that our personnel, medical and similar files and those of all Department of Correction employees be exempted from the State's FOIA statutes.

We were successful in our last contract arbitration to win language which protects our members however we speak today for all other Department of Correction employees (with or without a union contract) who are not yet provided this protection.

This protection is necessary as the disclosure of personal information located in these files causes not only distress for employees and their families, but also places these employees at great physical harm.

It is important to remember that Department of Correction members signed up for risk, however, their families did not. The access of this information puts these families at risk of harm and an additional unnecessary stress above and beyond the day to day thoughts of where their loved ones work.

It is common sense that files containing personal information of employees not be given to those individuals whose behavior has required that they be removed from society and placed under the supervision of the Commissioner of Correction.

I urge passage of this important piece of legislation.