



## **CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

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### **Testimony to the Committee on Public Safety**

**February 18, 2010**

**Chiefs Anthony Salvatore & James Strillacci, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association**

#### **We support RB #5155, An Act Concerning the Timing of Testing For Blood Alcohol Levels In Operating Under The Influence Cases.**

Current law makes inadmissible the chemical test of a driver for intoxication unless it began within two hours of operation of a vehicle. This bill would admit results of a test begun later, if expert testimony establishes reliability of the test.

There are occasions when it is not possible to test an intoxicated driver within the two-hour limit. For example, it may take more time to identify and locate a drunk driver who flees the scene of a traffic crash.

In such cases it would be unjust for an arbitrary deadline to let a dangerous driver escape the consequences of his action, if competent scientific evidence can demonstrate his intoxication at the time of the crash.

The two-hour limit is one of many loopholes through which drunk drivers may escape. This bill will close it, and we hope you will approve it.

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