



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**

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**Testimony of the Honorable Lynda B. Munro  
Chief Administrative Judge for Family Matters  
Judiciary and Human Services Committee Joint Public Hearing  
March 15, 2010**

**House Bill 5496, AAC Restraining Orders for the Protection of Family  
Violence Victims in the Workplace**

Thank you for the opportunity to address House Bill 5496, *An Act Concerning Restraining Orders for the Protection of Family Violence Victims in the Workplace*. The Judicial Branch is concerned about the significant structural costs of this proposal.

This bill would permit employers to seek restraining orders on behalf of any employee who has suffered from unlawful violence or a credible threat of violence. It does not add employers to the restraining order statute; rather, it creates a new but very similar process for employers. Implementing this new process would require the Judicial Branch to incur significant expenses to change forms, re-program computer systems, and modify the protective order registry. It has the potential for bringing a significant number of new cases into the system, and the Judicial Branch would be required to pay for service of process in those cases. The Judicial Branch cannot absorb these costs within our available resources.

In conclusion, we urge the Committee not to act favorably on this proposal.