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Senator Edith Prague
Representative Kevin Ryan
Senator Tony Guglielmo
Representative Selim Noujaim

Thank you all for hearing SB 167 today.

Senate Bill 167 would provide an expedient manner to apply the intent of the law that municipalities use against police officers. This statute is very narrowly drafted and historically affects a minimal amount of police officers compared to the thousands of employed law enforcement officers. When the unfortunate instance of a police officer getting arrested because of an on-duty incident and subsequently placed on administrative duties is vindicated by the courts, the police officer should be made whole for the economic losses incurred during the length of his/her administrative sanctions. Municipalities have opted to fight the officer on the wages owed to them causing significant legal costs that the officer must bear. Ultimately the cost of seeking justice causes most of the award to be consumed by legal fees. Again this would only apply in cases wherein the officer was found not guilty or the case was dismissed by the courts.

I thank the committee for its time and urge the favorable passage of this bill.

Very Truly Yours,