



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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Testimony of Stephen N. Ment
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
March 21, 2011

Senate Bill 1166, An Act Concerning The Length Of Pretrial Detention

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in regards to *Senate Bill 1166, An Act Concerning the Length of Pretrial Detention*.

In order to implement subsection (d), the Judicial Branch respectfully requests that it be amended to require the defendant to file a motion to trigger a court hearing to address instances where the defendant's most serious charge is a misdemeanor and he or she has been detained for the maximum term of imprisonment authorized.

If the intent of the bill is for the court to monitor such cases without the filing of a motion, it will have a fiscal impact on the Judicial Branch. Presently, our computer system is not capable of determining if a person is only being held on a misdemeanor charge; therefore, we would not be in a position to identify eligible persons. Without a motion by the defendant, the Branch would need to develop a new computer system to implement the bill.

Should it be the will of the Committee to favorably report the bill as drafted, we would ask that it be referred to the Appropriations Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.