



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(860) 757-2270 Fax (860) 757-2215

Testimony of Deborah J. Fuller
Government Administration and Elections Committee
Public Hearing
March 9, 2012

Senate Bill 339, An Act Revising Statutes Concerning
the Department of Administrative Services

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch on *Senate Bill 339, An Act Revising Statutes Concerning the Department of Administrative Services*. The Judicial Branch has concerns with some of the language in the bill - all related to the definition of "state agency" and whether the Judicial Branch is included in some of the requirements the bill would impose. In particular, we are concerned about the following sections of the bill:

- Lines 28-29: The wording here appears to put the Commissioner of Administrative Services in charge of issuing guidelines for how much every agency to whom the FOI act applies, including the Legislative and Judicial Branches as well as all other public agencies, may charge for computer-stored public records. Is this what was intended? The current statute requires only monitoring, which admittedly may be difficult, if not impossible.
- Lines 80-85: This section would require a "state agency" to get permission from OPM before it allows any of its premises to be used by an entity that is not a state agency. As used in this section, "state agency" includes both the Judicial and Legislative Branches. This would significantly impact the way the Branch operates with respect to the use of courthouses by outside organizations. We do

not believe this section should apply to property under the care and control of the Chief Court Administrator, and would respectfully request that the bill be amended to exclude the Judicial Branch from this requirement. This could be accomplished either by specifying that this subsection applies to any state agency within the Executive Branch, or to specifically exempt state real property under the control of the Chief Court Administrator.

- Section 11, line 399: Since this section of the statutes is being amended, we would respectfully request that the phrase "*and, where provided by statute, the Judicial Department*" be added after "Legislative Department." This amendment is needed in order to recognize the authority that the Chief Court Administrator has under C.G.S. sec. 4b-3(d) to represent the state in providing space for the Court Support Services Division, as part of a new or existing contract for an alternative incarceration or other program.

We have made the Department of Administrative Services aware of these concerns and expect that we will be able to arrive at a mutually agreeable solution to these issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.