



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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Testimony of Stephen N. Ment
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
March 29, 2012

Senate Bill 454, An Act Concerning The Unauthorized Practice of Law

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in regards to Section 1 of *Senate Bill 454, An Act Concerning the Unauthorized Practice of Law*. Section 1 suggests that an individual's failure to pay the Client Security Fund fee will not result in that individual being prohibited from practicing law.

Under Connecticut Practice Book sections 2-70(b) and 2-79, an attorney who does not pay the Client Security Fund fee is administratively suspended from the bar and is prohibited from practicing law. This is a necessary enforcement tool to ensure payment is made to the Fund. As this portion of section 1 conflicts with an existing court rule, we would respectfully request that it be stricken from the bill.

Thank you for your consideration.