



CONNECTICUT POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
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Testimony to the Joint Committee on Judiciary, April 15, 2013
Chiefs Anthony Salvatore & Matthew Reed, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

Senator Coleman, Representative Fox and distinguished members of the Committee, The Connecticut Police Chiefs Association **SUPPORTS** Raised Bill 6692 – An Act Concerning Participation in a Program of Community Service for Persons Seeking Fee Waivers in Certain Civil Actions.

Municipalities are forced to spend precious resources to investigate and defend nonsense law suits. While we support the right of every person to have equal access to the courts, the current system of fee waivers actually creates unequal access.

Individuals who claim indigence are allowed to file suit without paying associated filing and service fees. This allows for a somewhat unequal and unregulated use of the civil litigation system.

The Association supports the implementation of a program that would compel indigent filers to participate in program of community service, thus allowing the State to recoup some of the costs associated with civil litigation.

The implementation of such a program is likely to curb or at least reduce the number of nonsense, vexatious, or otherwise frivolous suits that cost our state and municipalities time and resources to defend.

END