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**Testimony to the Committee on Public Safety and Security, March 14, 2013  
Chiefs Anthony Salvatore & Matthew Reed, Connecticut Police Chiefs Association**

Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security. We submit the following testimony in reference to Section 24 of **S.B. 1076 – An Act Concerning the Reduction of Gun Violence.**

Section 24 of the proposed bill replaces Section 53a-217d of the general statutes. This statute pertains to the restriction of the possession of body armor.

Paragraph (c) of the proposed statute sets forth the exceptions to the restrictions of who can possess body armor. The listed exceptions include local police, state police, Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Correction, Board of Pardons and Parole, Department of Motor Vehicles or the Judicial Branch and members of the armed forces. However, the statute fails to include Environmental Protection officers, University police officers and University Special police officers.

We believe that the intent of the legislature is to exempt all bona fide law enforcement officers from the body armor possession restrictions.

To that end, we recommend that in addition to the language proposed, the following be added to include, ***“other police officers certified by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes 7-294a to 7-294e.”***

This inclusive language will ensure that all certified police officers are allowed to lawfully possess body armor.

END