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TESTIMONY – Committee on Government Administration and Elections  
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Good afternoon Senator Musto, Representative Jutila and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

My name is Glenn Terlecki and I am the President of the Connecticut Police and Fire Union. Our Union represents approximately 900 State employees in law enforcement and firefighting professions throughout Connecticut. I am here today to speak in favor of:

Senate Bill No. 273

***“AN ACT CONCERNING THE NONDISCLOSURE OF THE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF SWORN MEMBERS OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT.”***

Subsection (a) of section 1-217 of the Connecticut general statutes currently provides an exemption for nondisclosure of residential addresses for certain law enforcement officers employed by both state and municipal departments. The current language excludes a large number of law enforcement officers employed by the State. I do not believe these officers were purposely excluded, but rather inadvertently overlooked when the language was first introduced. For example, the area of greatest concern is the language that states, “a sworn member of a municipal police department, a sworn member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or a sworn law enforcement officer within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection”.

I represent hundreds of members who are certified police officers at the University of Connecticut, State universities and community colleges, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), Department of Children and Families (DCF), Special Revenue and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). I also represent members in law enforcement job functions who are State Liquor Control Agents and Animal Control Officers. None of these law enforcement professionals are protected from someone requesting and obtaining their personal residential information through a freedom of information request.

The inclusion of the language, “law enforcement unit” provides an exemption for all law enforcement professionals, including those already listed in the statute. Section 7-294a of the general statutes defines a law enforcement unit as, “any agency, organ or department of this state or a subdivision or municipality thereof, whose primary functions include the enforcement of criminal or traffic laws, the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, or the prevention, detection or investigation of crime”.

Every individual who enforces laws, makes arrests and takes an oath to protect and serve deserves protection under this statute.

I ask for your support in passing this important legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

**Glenn Terlecki, President**