



# Fairfield Police Department

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ORGANIZED  
1930

February 11, 2014

The Honorable Roberta B. Willis and Steve Cassano,  
Co-Chairs Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Re: Support for Raised Bill #5029;  
AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND INTIMATE PARTNER  
VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS

To both Co-chairs and committee members,

I am thankful for this opportunity to submit this written testimony in support of Bill #5029. As the Police Chief for the Town of Fairfield, serving two Universities, Fairfield and Sacred Heart, I understand there needs to be consistent policies for reporting, investigating and training around Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence on Campus. We respond to and interact regularly with the staff and students from both Universities to ensure a safe environment. When incidents do occur, it is imperative that they are handled appropriately for the victim and the student population as a whole.

I currently sit on the Board of Directors for Jane Doe No More, an organization dedicated to empowering victims, and improving response to these crimes. Members of Jane Doe No More currently coordinate with Fairfield Police and University staff to offer awareness training, among other things, to students.

I also Co-Chaired the Engaging Men and Boys committee for the Ct Coalition Against Domestic Violence's (CCADV) Statewide Primary Prevention Plan to prevent Intimate Partner Violence in our communities. Our Universities play an important role in the prevention and response of these crimes.

Statistically we know the crimes of Sexual Violence and Intimate Partner Violence are underreported, and can assume that underreporting is also prevalent on campus. . This bill will help ensure Universities understand and report this type of activity, but will also help victims feel more secure and confident in coming forward. It is only through proper and standardized reporting that accurate data can be obtained to fully respond to and prevent these crimes from occurring

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G MacNamara', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary MacNamara

Chief of Police

Town of Fairfield Police Department