

CCDLA
"Ready in the Defense of Liberty"
Founded 1988

Connecticut Criminal Defense
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March 20, 2015

The Honorable Eric D. Coleman
The Honorable William Tong
Joint Committee on Judiciary
Room 2500, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Re: Raised Bill No. 7027– An Act Concerning Revisions to Certain Criminal Statutes

Dear Chairmen and Committee Members:

The Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (CCDLA) is a statewide organization of over 300 licensed lawyers, in both the public and private sectors, dedicated to defending persons accused of criminal offenses. Founded in 1988, the CCDLA works to improve the criminal justice system by ensuring that the individual rights guaranteed by the Connecticut and United States constitutions are applied fairly and equally and that those rights are not diminished.

The CCDLA supports **Raised Bill 7027, An Act Concerning Revisions to Certain Criminal Statutes**. Under Section 1(a) (1) of C.G.S. 53a-115 the values upon which Criminal Mischief in the first degree are based would be increased from One Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500) to Two Thousand dollars (\$2000) to correspond to the values currently assigned to Larceny in the third degree pursuant to C.G.S. 53a-121(a)(2) and Larceny in the fourth degree under C.G.S. 53a-125(a). The CCDLA would note that the larceny statute values were increased recently to reflect monetary trends over the past decade. This proposal brings the values assigned to criminal mischief in the first degree in line with those of the larceny statutes.

The CCDLA supports the passage of **Raised Bill 7027, An Act Concerning Revisions to Certain Criminal Statutes** as it pertains to the criminal mischief statute. The CCDLA takes no position as to the bill's other sections. If you have any questions regarding this testimony please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



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