

# UNIFORMED PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

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Good afternoon, Honorable Chairmen Rep. Dargan, Sen. Larson, Honorable members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Richard Hart. I represent the Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association of Connecticut which represents 60 Local affiliates of the International Association of Firefighters. Membership in the UPPFA is comprised of approximately 4,000 Union firefighters in Connecticut.

I am submitting testimony in **opposition** of HB 6911 An Act Requiring Verification to Reduce False Alarms.

A fire approximately doubles in size every minute. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has a video showing a room “flashing” over in 2:43 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKel2MdPn58>). The room reached temperatures of over 1400 degrees, unsurvivable for anyone. When a fire alarm is reported, seconds literally do count and any delay could have devastating effects. HB 6911 would cause the loss of life and property by delaying the response of the fire department. I firmly advocate for the removal of the phrase “fire department” in paragraphs (b) (4) and removing the word “fire” and “fire department” from paragraph (c) (1) and (c) (2).

Ensuring a rapid and timely response by the fire service is imperative in the battle to save lives and protect property. By having an alarm company “verify” a false alarm will delay responses should an error or the inability of the alarm company to provide confirmation of a false alarm occur.

Please do not move this bill forward.

Richard Hart

*Richard Hart*

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