

**Testimony of
Bethanne Cooley
Director, State Legislative Affairs
CTIA-The Wireless Association®
Concerns Regarding Connecticut Senate Bill 68
February 3rd, 2015**

Before the Connecticut General Laws Committee

Co-Chair Leone, Co-Chair Baram, and members of the Committee, on behalf of CTIA-The Wireless Association®, the trade association for the wireless communications industry, I write to respectfully express concern regarding Senate Bill 68. Senate Bill 68 would “prohibit retail businesses from scanning or copying consumers' driver's licenses at the time of a business transaction.” We are concerned this legislation could negatively impact our legitimate business practices.

Senate Bill 68 does pose some concern for the wireless industry. When a wireless customer enters into a monthly (postpaid) contract to receive wireless service, a customer is asked for a form of identification, oftentimes a driver's license. A driver's license helps authenticate the wireless customer, prevent fraudulent subscriptions and facilitate valid access to customer account information. This authentication process is beneficial for both wireless companies and consumers by ensuring that companies and consumers are not victims of fraud. Moreover, wireless companies have appropriate safeguards in place to protect against unauthorized access to such information.

As such, the wireless industry appreciates the opportunity to express our concerns regarding Senate Bill 68. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss further with the sponsor.