



BILL FINCH
Mayor

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Committee on Judiciary
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: H.B. 6929: An Act Establishing a Pilot Program in the City of Bridgeport to Allow for the Service of a Capias Mittimus Order by an Off-Duty Police Officer

Thank you Senator Coleman, Representative Tong, and members of the committee for the opportunity to testify before you today. I'm here to support an act establishing a pilot program in the city of Bridgeport to allow for the service of a capias mittimus order by an off-duty police officer.

As the mayor of our state's largest city, and as the father of four kids, I'm personally invested in ensuring every child gets the resources they need to succeed. For our part, this means giving them cleaner air to breathe, more parks and safer neighborhoods to play in, and new schools to learn in the right environment. And I'm proud to say that we're keeping our promises.

However, not all promises are being kept to these children, and in many cases, it's costing them dearly. Sadly, child support enforcement is an issue affecting our country, our state, and our city. Recent data shows that fewer than 50 percent of single mothers had child support orders, and often times, absent parents can get away with not paying their fair share of child support. Ultimately, it's the child who loses out.

This bill would create a pilot program to let off-duty cops aid in holding deadbeat dads and other child support dodgers accountable by allowing them to serve capias mittimus orders. This bill provides additional law enforcement officers the authority to help our kids get the child support they deserve.

In Bridgeport, we're working hard to create a place where our kids and grandkids will want to one day live, work, and raise their families, too. But sometimes, that means holding people accountable here today.

I wholeheartedly support this bill and respectfully ask the committee to do the same. Our kids, and their future, are depending on it. And it's the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Finch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Finch
Mayor of Bridgeport