



Testimony Regarding House Bill No. 6875, An Act Concerning Criminal Records and Employment Applications

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.
Executive Director
Connecticut Airport Authority

Joint Committee on Labor and Public Employees
March 5, 2015

Dear Senator Gomes, Representative Tercyak, Senator Hwang, Representative Rutigliano, and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee,

My name is Kevin Dillon, and I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA). I am submitting this testimony to respectfully recommend substitute language for House Bill No. House Bill No. 6875, An Act Concerning Criminal Records and Employment Applications.

The CAA opposes language in this legislation that would prevent the organization from seeking the disclosure "of any arrest, criminal charge or conviction (1) the records of which have not been erased...until such time as such employer, agent, representative, or designee has determined that the applicant is otherwise qualified for the position." Due to strict federal requirements imposed by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), individuals with certain criminal histories are not permitted to acquire access to secure areas in the airport. If the CAA is not permitted to solicit the information necessary to determine if an applicant meets the necessary security requirements in the initial application phase, it could lead to resources being needlessly expended on the processing of applications that would require mandatory rejection, as per federal regulations, regardless of whether the individual was otherwise qualified.

The CAA respectfully requests that the language in House Bill No. 6875 be amended to exempt the Connecticut Airport Authority from the requirements set forth in subsection (i) regarding any restriction on soliciting information on arrests, criminal charges or convictions that have not been erased.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please feel free to contact my office at (860) 292-2054 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.
Executive Director
Connecticut Airport Authority