



State of Connecticut

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Sen. Martin Testimony In Support of S.B. 454 Planning and Development Committee February 13th, 2015

Senator Osten, Representative Miller, Senator Linares, Representative Aman and members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am Senator Henri Martin, and I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 454: AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF THE COSTS OF CERTIFICATION FOR A POLICE OFFICER.

This bill will require that municipalities be reimbursed for the costs of police certification when a police officer is hired by another municipality within two years of such certification.

This specific legislation would allow towns, like those I represent, to recuperate monies lost from the cost of certification and would remove a significant financial burden placed on individual municipal police departments struggling with this concern.

Local leaders, throughout my district, have expressed a deep frustration to me that many of their new police officers often complete certification at the expense of the town and then transfer to another municipality which is looking to specifically hire a certified officer. Many of these competing towns and police departments offer higher wages and salaries, because they can save the municipality the cost of police certification.

As such, these same local leaders have expressed deep support for this bill. S.B.454 corrects the inequities of the current system and provides a fair reimbursement system to the municipalities affected by this problem.

Thank you for your consideration of S.B. 454

Best Regards,

Senator Henri Martin
31st District