



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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TESTIMONY
William W. Dickinson, Jr.
Mayor, Town of Wallingford
Before the
Public Safety and Security Committee
February 3, 2015

Senator Larson, Representative Dargen, and members of the Public Safety & Security Committee, I write in support of **Proposed Senate Bill #260: An Act Creating a Short Form to Report a Motor Vehicle Accident.**

Proposed Senate Bill #260 requests that a short form motor vehicle accident report be made available to municipal police departments. The new 8 to 14 page form replaces a 2 page form. Most of the information requested has no meaning for law enforcement. To burden police officers with time consuming tasks unrelated to law enforcement will have an adverse impact on our ability to provide public safety.

We need relief from the mandate of the CT DOT RP-1 form for the following reasons among others:

- 1) The time to complete the form is 40 minutes for a 2 car accident. A car collision with a tree requires 5 pages of report.
- 2) Much of the information requested has little relevance to motor vehicle law enforcement. For example, the longitude and latitude of accident location or the weather conditions at the time of an accident under circumstances in which weather was not a causative factor, consume time and money. However, the form will be rejected without completion of those fields.

We need our police departments to be providing public safety, not to be agents of data collection. Please consider granting relief on this matter.


William W. Dickinson, Jr.
Mayor

cc: Town of Wallingford Legislators