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TESTIMONY – Public Safety and Security Committee

Good afternoon Senator Larson, Representative Dargan and all distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. On behalf of 900 public safety professionals I would like to thank you for your continued efforts in support of law enforcement and security professionals.

My name is Glenn Terlecki and I am the President of the Connecticut Police and Fire Union. Our Union represents State employees in law enforcement and firefighting professions. I am writing to ask for your **support** in **Raised S.B. No. 1013 “AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY AT MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE”**.

Along with my support of this bill, I also would ask that this bill be amended to include all four (4) community colleges where there is an established police department. These colleges include: Capital Community College, Housatonic Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College and Manchester Community College. The basis of this bill is to amend Section 10a-156b of the general statutes to include Manchester Community College as one of the listed colleges established as a special police force.

For many decades, each of the above mentioned community colleges has had a structured police department. This legislation would simply afford these officers the protection and statutory authority under sections 7-281, 14-8, 54-1f and 54-33a and title 53a as is established for all local police departments. It will also protect any police officer employed by a department listed in this statute from financial loss that may arise out of any claim of civil rights deprivation as long as the officer's actions were determined to be within the scope of the officer's duties and not wanton, reckless or malicious.

This legislation would not change any employee's pay, pension, healthcare or benefits. The police officers employed at these colleges are all certified and trained police officers by P.O.S.T. They are already established in the State's hazardous duty retirement system and are members within the NP-5 bargaining unit.

If amended, this legislation will bring in line section 10a-156b to cover all police officers employed at the University of Connecticut, UCONN Health Center and all four (4) Board of Regents police departments.

I encourage you to support this legislation with the recommend amendment outlined in this testimony.

Glenn Terlecki, President
Connecticut Police and Fire Union