



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of the Judicial Branch  
Planning and Development Committee Public Hearing  
March 4, 2016**

**H.B. 5489, An Act Concerning Funds Remitted to Municipalities for the  
Enforcement of Moving Violations**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch regarding **H.B. 5489, *An Act Concerning Funds Remitted to Municipalities for the Enforcement of Moving Violations***. The Judicial Branch has several concerns with this proposal.

Under the current language of the bill, the surcharge on certain fines would be raised from \$15 to \$25 or 25% of the fine, whichever is greater. In order to implement this change, the Judicial Branch would need to make significant and costly computer system changes. Additionally, every listed offense would have to be re-analyzed to determine the fee amounts for tickets. We would also need to coordinate with the vendor that supplies the clerks' office cash registers in order to ensure that they could properly and accurately process the new fees.

The changes under the bill as currently drafted would not be possible to complete by the proposed July 1, 2016 effective date. While a fee increase to a fixed amount without the 25% option would be significantly easier to implement, the Branch would still request that the July 1 effective date be changed to October 1, 2016.

Finally, the bill is silent on whether this fee increase would only apply to new offenses on or after the effective date, or if they would apply to any case still in the system as of the effective date.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this proposal.