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Connecticut Property Owners Alliance, LLC
300 New Britain Road, Berlin, CT 06037
www.ctpoa.com
1-800-369-6153
ctpoa@sbcglobal.net

Public Safety Committee Public Hearing, March 1, 2016

AN ACT CONCERNING INSPECTIONS BY FIRE MARSHALS

Testimony of Bob De Cosmo, President of the CT Property Owners Alliance, LLC.

In opposition to H.B. 5278

Honorable members of the Public Safety Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to supply testimony on requiring sprinkler systems on new construction with 2 or more units.

The Connecticut Property Owners Alliance represents approximately 16,000 rental units and believes that this requirement will create more harm than good. It increases the costs of housing and will create many new insurance claims as sprinkler systems do fail and create water damage to contents and the structure itself.

We strongly support code compliance and believe that the most effective way to protect lives is to have smoke detection installed on each level of a property and the basement area.

We appreciate the intent to help protect the public but this bill raises many concerns and questions including how the system will be connected to the domestic public water supply and will impact water flow requirements from private wells, we oppose this Bill.

Sincerely,

Bob DeCosmo