

UNIFORMED PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

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Good afternoon, Honorable Chairmen Rep. Dargan and Sen. Larson, members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Richard Hart. I represent the Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association of Connecticut which represents 57 Local affiliates of the International Association of Firefighters. Membership in the UPPFA is comprised of approximately 4,000 Union firefighters in Connecticut.

I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** of SB 239, AA Requiring Verification To Reduce False Alarms.

In a recent National Institute on Standards and Technology (NIST) side by side training fire, a home constructed and furnished to 2015 standards, burns and reaches flashover in approximately 5-7 minutes. If reporting the receipt of a fire alarm is delayed to allow for the alarm company to verify the presence of fire or not, critical minutes are lost. Those minutes literally mean the difference between life and death and the ability to reduce damage from fire and hamper fire department operations.

This legislation should **NEVER** see the light of day. The loss of one life is unacceptable, and this bill sets the stage for exactly that probability.

Do not move SB 239 forward.

Thank you,

Richard Hart

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DIRECTOR

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