



State of Connecticut

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Testimony In Support Of

S.B. 472: An Act Concerning Fees for Security Freezes on Reports, Notification of a Consumer's Decision to Place or Remove a Security Freeze on a Credit Report and the Duration of Certain Identity Theft Prevention Services Required After a Data Breach

H.B. 5492: An Act Concerning Consumer Credit Reports, Credit Rating Agencies and Certain Employer Credit Inquiries

Banking Committee

March 15, 2018

Good afternoon Senator Winfield, Senator Martin, Representative Lesser, Representative Simanski and distinguished members of the Banking Committee. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony regarding S.B. 472: An Act Concerning Fees for Security Freezes on Reports, Notification of a Consumer's Decision to Place or Remove a Security Freeze on a Credit Report and the Duration of Certain Identity Theft Prevention Services Required After a Data Breach and H.B. 5492: An Act Concerning Consumer Credit Reports, Credit Rating Agencies and Certain Employer Credit Inquiries.

I am writing in support of H.B. 5492 and S.B. 472 because they will prohibit credit rating agencies from changing a customer for freezing their credit reports in the event of a computer hacking or security breach. I have had several constituents reach out to me over the past several years regarding this issue. The most recent Equifax breach in the state exposed many of Connecticut resident's social security numbers and other personal information to hackers. While at first they offered a free freeze facility, that has now ended and it now costs \$10 each time you freeze or unfreeze your credit files. By moving forward with these pieces of legislation, the people of the State of Connecticut would be protected regardless of what happens in the event of a security breach.

Thank you for raising these proposals and I look forward to working with the committee to move this legislation forward.