



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL

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**ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**MEMBER**  
AGING COMMITTEE  
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EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Testimony in support of HB 5176*  
***AN ACT PROTECTING MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.***  
*Government Administration and Elections Committee*  
*February 26, 2018*

Co-Chairs McLachlan, Flexer and Fox; Vice Chairs Frantz, Slossberg and Winkler; Ranking Member Devlin and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

Thank you for this opportunity to address the committee today and thank you for raising **HB 5176 AN ACT PROTECTING MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**. I offer my full support.

This legislation would amend Title 9 of the general statutes to offer law enforcement officers the option to have Voter Registration Information for individuals having the “same last name”, living with a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO), residing in the towns they serve.

Currently, LEO’s may elect to have their voter registration info hidden under the aforementioned circumstances. However, it will be beneficial for a spouse or children living in the same town to also have the option to have the same privacy protection available, to secure the home.

This concept was originally brought to me by a couple of Newtown Police Officers in 2014 and introduced as a concept bill in the 2015 Legislative Session. At the time, part of our intent was to prevent harassment occurring with “Sandy Hook Deniers”, a phenomenon still occurring today, in 2018.

Of course, this is not the only reason for such protection. Today – more than ever - with our nation’s current divisive climate and the increased dangers unique to being a Law Enforcement Professional, it is my most sincere hope that we can advance this bill to provide one small, additional layer of protection for those who risk it all – every day. The added privacy and peace of mind proposed in this concept will cost nothing, yet be a valuable tool to assure peace at home and peace of mind.

Thank you again for your consideration of HB 5176 and I urge the committee’s support.

Respectfully,

*Representative Mitch Bolinsky*