

**SB 1019. AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES,
ERASURE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS FOR CERTAIN MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY
OFFENSES, PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON ERASED CRIMINAL
HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION AND CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO
MISDEMEANOR SENTENCES**

OPPOSE AS WRITTEN

To the esteemed members of the Judicial Committee:

My name is Eric Rogers and I am a member of CT Association of Real Estate Investors, CT Property Owners Alliance and CT Coalition of Property Owners. I have owned and operated several units in central Connecticut for more than a decade.

I provide the following testimony:

I do understand the need to support those that have been formerly incarcerated. However, from the perspective of housing, this bill may have negative consequences.

Housing Providers need to be able to provide a safe environment for their residents. Application screening is one of the most important tools a Housing Provider has to make a decision on a resident. Concealing certain criminal records via a limited look-back period disables the Housing Provider from making a sound decision, and most importantly puts other residents in the building at risk. How would this law be seen when we have an injury or death that resulted from a repeat criminal that the Housing Provider was unable to detect because the past criminal records were concealed? I rent to the elderly, as well as to single women with children. I need to take applicant selection seriously. Furthermore, I talk to many Housing Providers about this – most would review an applicant's criminal history and factor it along with all other attributes. The difference is that the Housing Provider is able to make a decision based on complete information. Concealing and/or erasing certain criminal records prevents an informed decision from being made and potentially places other residents in harm.

Thank you for your consideration.

Eric Rogers
CCOPO