



CONNECTICUT STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

March 9, 2021

Senator Bradley, Co-Chair Public Safety & Security Committee
Representative Horn, Co-Chair Public Safety & Security Committee
Senator Champagne, Ranking Member Public Safety & Security Committee
Representative Green, Ranking Member Public Safety & Security Committee

Members of the Public Safety & Security Committee

My name is Ted Schroll, Legislative Representative for the Connecticut State Firefighters Association. Our Association represents approximately 26,000 career and volunteer firefighters in Connecticut. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on two bills on today's public hearing agenda.

S. B. #119 AA EXEMPTING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND DEPARTMENTS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES AND COMPANIES FROM THE FEE FOR A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK.

We **SUPPORT** this bill. Many volunteer fire departments must rely on donations and special work projects to provide for their own operating funds. They also must screen all new personnel for security reasons and the fees needed to pay for these criminal history checks place an undue burden on their limited funds.

S. B. #1010 AAC THE USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES BY EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

We **OPPOSE** the passage of this bill. Many fire officers are issued mobile telephones or electronic devices for fire department use only. These devices are often used for personnel issues or sensitive communications not meant for public knowledge. Fire Officers are not expected to tie up emergency communications systems with routine business. Modern Bluetooth technology eliminates the need for this frivolous legislation.

Respectfully,

Ted Schroll Jr.

Ted Schroll Jr., Legislative Representative
Connecticut State Firefighters Association

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