



**Testimony in Support of Committee Bill No. 123, An Act Increasing the Penalty for the Intentional Injury of a Police Animal or Dog in a Volunteer Canine Search and Rescue Team.**

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Airport Authority

Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security  
February 11, 2021

Dear Senator Bradley, Representative Horn, Senator Champagne, Representative Green, and distinguished members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

My name is Kevin Dillon, and I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA). **I am submitting this testimony in support of Committee Bill No. 123, An Act Increasing the Penalty for the Intentional Injury of a Police Animal or Dog in a Volunteer Canine Search and Rescue Team.**

The CAA, through a partnership with the Connecticut State Police and the Transportation Security Administration, proudly hosts a canine detection program at Bradley International Airport. These dogs and their handlers provide a vital service at the airport to keep our passengers and employees safe on a daily basis. The CAA strongly supports efforts by the committee to increase the penalties for any individual who intentionally harms these animals in the course of their duties, and we thank the committee for discussing this important issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please feel free to contact me at (860) 292-2054 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin A. Dillon'.

Kevin A. Dillon, A.A.E.  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Airport Authority