



Legislative Testimony
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Written Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 1222, An Act Concerning Fees for Copying, Reviewing, and Redacting Records Created By Police Body-Worn Equipment and Dashboard Cameras

Senator Flexer, Representative Blumenthal, Ranking Members Sampson and Mastrofrancesco, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

My name is Jess Zaccagnino, and I am the policy counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT). I am writing to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 1222, An Act Concerning Fees for Copying, Reviewing, and Redacting Records Created By Police Body-Worn Equipment and Dashboard Cameras.

Injustice thrives in the dark. The ability to shed sunlight on government action through open records requests is essential to holding police accountable and to preventing state-sanctioned discrimination, abuse, and mismanagement. As an organization that values government transparency and accessibility, the ACLU-CT supports people having access to public records created by municipalities. We believe this bill would stifle people's accessibility to information they have a right to obtain by charging people fees for records created by police-worn body cameras and dashboard cameras. The public should never have to pay to access records kept by the government, and that includes recordings captured by police body and dashboard cameras. The ACLU-CT opposes this bill, and urges this Committee to do the same.