

Legislative Testimony 765 Asylum Avenue, First Floor Hartford, CT 06105 860-523-9146 www.acluct.org

Written Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 156, An Act Concerning Consumer Privacy and Senate Bill 893, An Act Concerning Consumer Privacy

Senator Maroney, Representative D'Agostino, Ranking Members Witkos and Rutigliano, and distinguished members of the General Law Committee:

My name is Kelly McConney Moore, and I am the interim senior policy counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT). I am submitting this testimony to testify in support of Senate Bill 156, An Act Concerning Consumer Privacy and Senate Bill 893, An Act Concerning Consumer Privacy. Although Senate Bill 893 is only a proposed bill, with concept language instead of bill language, we support it; we also support Senate Bill 893, which does have exact language.

As an organization that fights to ensure Connecticut residents are afforded the right to privacy, the ACLU-CT supports legislative efforts to put personal data back in the hands of Connecticut consumers, rather than powerful corporations. We support both these bills' attempts to do so. However, Senate Bill 156 is only in draft form and Senate Bill 893 could go further to protect the privacy of Connecticut residents. Ideally, legislation that protects consumer privacy would include elements that (1) require transparency so consumers know how their information is being collected, used, shared, and stored; (2) require companies to allow consumers the flexibility to move data between services; (3) require affirmative consumer opt-in to a company's use, sharing, or selling of personal information; (4) limit the purposes for which consumer data can be used; (5) require purging of data after certain timeframes; (6) prevent companies from coercively conditioning services on

waiving privacy rights; (7) require companies to notify consumers of data breaches; (8) mandate that companies adopt cybersecurity measures to protect consumers; (9) apply equally to private companies and governmental units and agencies; and (10) provide for robust enforcement mechanisms. These bills address only certain of these elements, and then only incompletely. We encourage this Committee to continue the work of protecting consumer data privacy in this session, and in sessions to come, with these elements in mind.

While we encourage this Committee to provide the strongest possible consumer data privacy protections, like those we outlined above, we nonetheless applaud the steps these bills take towards allowing people in Connecticut more control over their data and their privacy. Accordingly, we support Senate Bills 156 and 893 and encourage this Committee to support them as well.