



State of Connecticut
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

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Testimony of Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Director

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS - FEBRUARY 23, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 225 - AN ACT CONCERNING FEES FOR COPYING, REVIEWING
AND REDACTING RECORDS CREATED BY POLICE BODY-WORN
RECORDING EQUIPMENT AND DASHBOARD CAMERAS**

The Office of Chief Public Defender (OCPD) supports that portion of *Raised S.B. 225, An Act Concerning Fees for Copying, Reviewing and Redacting Records Created by Police Body-Worn Recording Equipment and Dashboard Cameras* which pertains to a waiver of redaction fees when a request is made pursuant to the freedom of information statutes in accordance with subsection (d) of C.G.S. 1-212. C.G.S. 1-212 provides a waiver of any fees for a freedom of information request if:

"the person requesting the records is a member of the Division of Public Defender Services or an attorney appointed by the court as a Division of Public Defender Services assigned counsel under section 51-296 and such member or attorney certifies that the record pertains to the member's or attorney's duties."

The Office of Chief Public Defender also supports the language at lines 231-233 which eliminates any "search" fee to the requesting party, regardless of who the requestor may be.

As for the remainder of the bill, including the cost and/or fees that might be charged by an agency in an appropriate case, the Office of Chief Public Defender takes no position. This office requests that the waivers as contained in the bill remain and thanks the Committee for its consideration.