



Legislative Testimony
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Written Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 1073, An Act Concerning Equity and Opportunity in State Government

Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, Ranking Members Sampson and Mastrofrancesco, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections 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 testifying in support of Senate Bill 1073, An Act Concerning Equity and Opportunity in State Government.

The ACLU-CT is an organization devoted to justice for marginalized groups, including BIPOC, women and non-binary people, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities, and more. These groups are marginalized for the very reason that they have often been excluded from the protection and services offered by the government to dominant culture groups. These exclusions are both a result of vulnerable communities' lack of power, decision-making authority, and influence in governmental spheres, and a continuing, contributing cause to inability to build such power and influence. In other words, marginalized people will continue to be disproportionately excluded from rights, benefits, and spheres of power unless this cycle is interrupted. Senate Bill 1073 could create a rupture in this vicious cycle by requiring study of inequities in state government and pilot programs to remove barriers for underserved people. We encourage this Committee to strengthen the good ideas of Senate Bill 1073 even further by including people living with criminal records, one of the most underserved communities in Connecticut, as one of the groups whose exclusion is studied and remedied. We support Senate Bill 1073, and we encourage this Committee to make this suggested amendment and support it as well.