



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of the Judicial Branch
Labor and Public Employees Committee Public Hearing
March 4, 2021**

H.B. 6475, An Act Concerning Forced Arbitration Agreements

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch concerning **H.B. 6475, *An Act Concerning Forced Arbitration Agreements***. Should the Committee decide to act favorably on this proposal, it would be helpful if the proponents could clarify whether the relator/plaintiff here is considered a private party or the state. Line 24 makes clear that the plaintiff is stepping into the shoes of the state - "on behalf of the state and in the name of the state", but lines 51, 54-55, and 118-122 allow the state to intervene in the action which seems to suggest that the plaintiff is an individual (the relator) and is not the state. We believe clarification on this distinction would be helpful generally, and specifically for the Judicial Branch as it relates to the filing fees in these actions. Such fees are normally waived for state agencies filing cases, but as currently drafted, it is unclear in what capacity the relator would be filing.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.