

State of Connecticut - 2015

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1109 (File 758, as amended by Senate "A" and "B")*

AN ACT CONCERNING EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE.

§ 8 — OFFICERS INTERFERING WITH PHOTOGRAPHY

The bill makes a peace officer's employer liable in a court or other proceeding if the officer interferes with someone taking a photo or digital still or video image of the officer or another officer performing his or her duties. The employer is not liable if the officer had reasonable grounds to believe that he or she was interfering to:

1. lawfully enforce a state criminal law or municipal ordinance;
2. protect public safety;
3. preserve a crime scene's or investigation's integrity;
4. safeguard a person's privacy interests, including a crime victim's; or
5. lawfully enforce Judicial Branch court rules and policies on taking photos, video, and recording images in branch facilities.

The bill applies to peace officers except for federal government special agents and POST-certified members of the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan tribes' law enforcement units.