

Public Safety and Security Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-7074

AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM STATE-WIDE POLICE PURSUIT

Title: POLICY.

Vote Date: 3/18/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/4/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Security Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

HB 7074 aims to revise the existing uniform state-wide police pursuit policy by updating the conditions under which police officers may initiate or discontinue pursuits. Along with factors that supervisors and officers must consider during such situations. Even though police pursuits are necessary for capturing suspects. It can become a danger to law enforcement, suspects, and innocent bystanders. The updates this bill offers aim to better balance the need for apprehension with public safety, providing clearer guidelines and accountability for law enforcement agencies.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Connecticut Police Chiefs Association](#)

The CPCA supports the bill. They represent police chiefs across the state and overseeing over 7,000 law enforcement personnel. They acknowledge the inherent risks of police pursuits but emphasize that some situations necessitate such actions. CPCA believes that the proposed revisions strike a reasonable balance between apprehending suspects and ensuring public safety. They also stress the importance of allowing departments the flexibility to adopt more restrictive pursuit policies tailored to their community's specific needs and expectations.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Jess Zaccagnino Policy Counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut](#)

Mr. Zaccagnino opposes this testimony and states that Connecticut needs to end police violence and racism in policing in all forms. Expresses that Connecticut must divest from policing and reinvest in programs that build strong communities. He gives an account of one person dying in 2019 after a police officer pursued them. He presents data of the number of suspects and bystanders who have died from 2013-2017. He then states that a nationwide study by USA Today police car chases killed at least 11,506 people.

Reported by: Danny Pina

Date: 3/26/25