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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

April 9, 2008

The Honorable James Amann, Speaker
Connecticut House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building, Rm. 4105
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Dear Mr. Speaker:

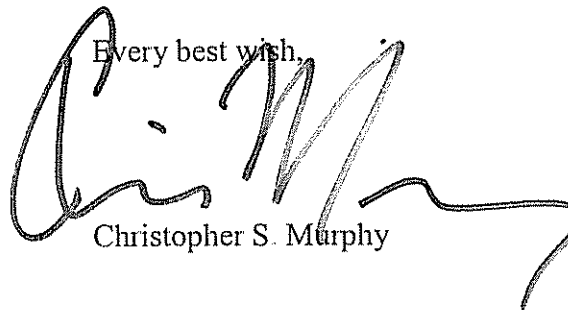
I am writing in support of H.B. 5629, legislation to ensure that Connecticut's public safety officers receive the medical treatment they deserve when they fall ill due to the nature of their work. I know that your commitment to these men and women has been unfailing and I believe that the passage of H.B. 5629 would reaffirm our state's commitment to these noble individuals.

H.B. 5629 is similar to legislation which I have cosponsored here in Congress, H.R. 1142, the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2007. Like H.B. 5629, the bill creates a rebuttable presumption that federal fire fighters who become disabled by heart disease, lung disease, certain cancers and certain infectious diseases contracted such illnesses on the job.

With the inherent dangers in their work, our first responders answer their call to duty day in and day out in service to their friends, their neighbors, their families, and to each and every member of their community. Our safety and security is ensured by their tireless efforts, and that is why I strongly support efforts on both the federal and state level to ensure that they are treated fairly.

As a result, I respectfully request that H.B. 5629 be given full consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Every best wish,



Christopher S. Murphy

Cc: Hon. Donald Williams
Hon. Toni Harp
Hon. Denise Merrill