

Marin, Carolina

From: Will Munck <w.munck@goldstarsurety.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 3:44 PM
To: Rules Committee
Subject: Bail Rules Change

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Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to voice my concerns regarding the proposed changed to the current bail rules here in Connecticut.

I feel that changing the cash option amount from 10% to 7% on bonds \$20,000.00 and under is only serving to undermine the judiciary and will cause more problems than it solves.

Defendants already know that when the are released on the "cash option" there is no one who is responsible for insuring their appearance in court.

To the best of my knowledge and research there is no penalty for skipping court, the other 90% of the bail cost is never collected for the infraction.

Ultimately it is a license to run free without consequence at a 93% off sale.

The data shows that defendants released on "cash option" bonds are already 20% more likely to not appear in court. For this reason it should be repealed entirely.

It seems the state has lost sight of it's responsibility to public safety. If a judge or commissioner finds a dangerousness consistent with \$20,000.00 or \$50,000.00 then that should be the bond. Giving out an automatic 93% discount completely undermines the point of a bail system in the first place.

Also, these things to not happen in a vacuum, the reaction to these measures will just be for judges to set higher and higher bonds on people, many of which may not deserve them in order to avoid seeing people get out of jail who should in fact have someone accountable for their return.

Every few years we hear about how the state wants to modify it's bail system and without fail every change sees an increase in both crime and incarceration rates. Nothing that is promised is ever delivered. These well meaning ideas only serve to make the state a more dangerous place for the law abiding citizens who live here.

Thank you.

Will Munck