

## Marin, Carolina

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**From:** laurahmckinley@grassrootsmessages.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 2:35 PM  
**To:** Rules Committee  
**Subject:** Oppose Proposed Bail Rule Change

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Dear Members of the Rules Committee,

I am writing to let you know I am a Connecticut voter, and I oppose the proposed rule change to give criminal defendants an automatic 93% discount on their bail by imposing a 7% premium in cash to the courts.

With all due respect, this is an issue for the legislature to figure out. I do not think that trial judges should be forced to give the 93% bail discount. Instead, I think trial judges should have all options on the table to do what is appropriate under the law.

When judges start legislating from the Bench like this, it shatters confidence in the independence of the judicial branch. Whatever policy gains may be made, the tarnish on the reputation of our independent judiciary is simply not worth it. Please let the legislators wade into the bail reform politics, and let the judges remain above it.

Please oppose the proposed rule change as to cash bail premiums to the court, in effect giving defendants an automatic 93% bail discount in many cases.

Laura McKinley  
Westport, CT