



Call to Action

5/5/18

Legislative leaders agree to end the practice of providing transcripts for public hearings. Another attack on open government

Last week, without providing any opportunity for public comment, under the guise of fiscal belt tightening, legislative leaders agreed to end the practice of providing transcripts of public hearings.

“Public hearings provide the first glimpse of the impetus for proposed legislation, what the relevant tensions and concerns are and the initial impressions of legislators considering them. As such, public hearing transcripts, which preserve the dialog and lines of inquiry, are a valuable component of legislative history and serve an important historical and archival function,” said Colleen Murphy, executive director of the state Freedom of Information Commission.

This decision, along with limiting the scope of programing on CT-N and uncertainty about the future operation of CT-N, continues to threaten the clarity of our insights into the legislative process.

Act Now!

- Call your legislators to let them know that this attack on open government and transparency is unacceptable.
- If you're a constituent of one of the legislative leaders, please let them know that you believe this decision is an unacceptable threat to open government and transparency.

Senator Martin Looney, Senate President Pro Tempore
Senator Bob Duff, Senate Majority Leader
Senator Leonard Fasano, Senate Republican President Pro Tempore
Representative Joseph Aresimowicz, Speaker of the House
Representative Matthew Ritter, Majority Leader
Representative Themis Klarides, Minority Leader

Supporting Documentation

What Did They Say? Legislative Leaders Eliminate Public Hearing Transcripts – Christine Stuart – Ct News Junkie

http://www.ctnewsjunkie.com/archives/entry/20180531_what_did_they_say_legislative_leaders_eliminate_public_hearing/

Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information's Press Release

<https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/ccfoi.pubhearings.pdf>