

# Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** SB-506 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR INTENTIONAL DAMAGE  
TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

**Vote Date:** 3/30/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/18/2026

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Judiciary Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

To combat intentional damage to fiber optic lines, this bill strengthens criminal penalties for intentional damage to or tampering with critical infrastructure and public safety systems by expanding the offenses of criminal mischief in the first and second degrees to include conduct that causes damage, or creates a risk of, interruption or impairment of services rendered to the public, including utility, transportation, communications, emergency response, and other essential state and municipal systems.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Anonymous 771:** They testified in full support of SB 506.

**Jeremy Crandall, Assistant Vice President, State Legislative Affairs:** They testified in support of SB 506, emphasizing the need to strengthen penalties for damage to telecommunications and broadband infrastructure due to rising theft and vandalism. They highlighted risks to public safety, emergency communications, healthcare, transportation, and economic activity, and supported the bill's expansion of criminal mischief statutes to protect critical infrastructure and prevent service disruptions.

**Peter Myers, Senior Policy Director of Connecticut Business & Industry Association:** They testified in support of SB 506, emphasizing that telecommunications and broadband

networks are critical infrastructure essential to public safety, emergency services, and economic activity. They supported clarifying criminal mischief statutes to ensure individuals who intentionally damage such infrastructure can be appropriately prosecuted and stated that strengthening penalties would help deter vandalism and protect service reliability.

**Anna P. Lucey, Executive Vice President of New England Connectivity & Telecommunications Association:** They testified in strong support of SB 506, emphasizing that the bill strengthens criminal mischief statutes to better deter and prosecute intentional damage to critical communications infrastructure. They highlighted the growing threat of organized metal theft and vandalism, the resulting risks to emergency services (including 911, hospitals, and public safety agencies), and supported clarifying intent requirements to improve prosecutorial effectiveness while maintaining protections against accidental damage.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by:** Trevor Ellis

**Date:** April 13, 2026