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Section: EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Efficient Courts
Are Better Answer

The March 18 editorial "Lawyers' Full-Employment Bill" advocates resolution of employment-related claims outside of court procedures.

Despite correctly identifying the perception of Connecticut law as unfriendly to business, especially when compared to New York state's commercial-savvy jurisprudence, the solution is not to disparage proposed legislation attempting to protect employees from emotional and physical harm in the workplace.

Perhaps this bill goes too far in criminalizing workplace bullying and possibly permitting civil actions based on the statute as enacted. Rather than advocate fleeing the courtroom to resolve disputes through alternative vehicles, the focus should be on reforming court procedures to permit more efficient resolution of a litigant's claims.

With judicial procedures simplified and focused on effectively utilizing parties' time and efforts, individuals will flock to the courts rather than to a mediator or arbitrator. Court procedures cognizant of commercial realities and focused on efficient resolution of a dispute permit parties to use judges' extensive legal knowledge. Such reforms also avoid the necessity of enacting substantive laws duplicating causes of action already available.

Court rules reformed to readily achieve quick resolution of disputes make the courtroom more attractive to businesses as well as individuals.

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