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**Testimony of  
Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Director**

**Judiciary Committee Public Hearing March 18, 2016**

**Raised Bill No. 5631  
An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing  
Commission with Respect to Victim Notification**

The Office of Chief Public Defender supports passage of *Raised Bill No. 5631, An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to Victim Notification*. The Chief Public Defender is a member of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. As such it participated in the discussions pertaining to this proposal.

It should be noted by this Committee though, that the language proposed by this working group also contained language which would include notice to the victim in cases in which there was a "total effective sentence of more than two years." Therefore, this Office respectfully suggests that language be added that requires notice to the victim of a plea bargain in not only those cases in which a sentence of 2 years or more of incarceration was imposed, but also those cases where a split sentence was imposed which resulted in the "total effective sentence" of 2 or more years. This change would also make Section 2 consistent with the language contained in Section 1. Thank you.