



State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

Office of Chief Public Defender

30 Trinity Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, Connecticut
(860) 509-6405 Telephone
(860) 509-6495 Fax

Christine Perra Rapillo

Chief Public Defender
Christine.Rapillo@jud.ct.gov

Deborah Del Prete Sullivan

Legal Counsel, Director
deborah.d.sullivan@jud.ct.gov

Testimony of Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel Judiciary Committee Public Hearing - March 26, 2018

S.B. 523 - An Act Concerning an Animal Abuse Registry H.B. 5576 - An Act Concerning an On-Line Registry of Persons Convicted of a Crime Involving Murder

The Office of Chief Public Defender respectfully requests that this Committee take no action on either of these bills. Registries have not proven to reduce recidivism and have created collateral consequences for offenders on such lists. Offenders on registries may experience increased difficulty in obtaining housing and employment as a result of being listed with their addresses. These offenders are generally grouped together without any explanation of the distinctive facts of the case. In addition, the risk of threat to public safety, if any, that the offender poses is not reflected anywhere on the registry. As a result, the registry is merely a collection of names and addresses of persons based upon convictions of a certain statute. What results is increased speculation about the offenders by the public and perhaps, an erroneous perception, by the public of the offenders. Over the past year, the current Connecticut Sex Offender Registry has undergone intensive review by the Connecticut Sentencing Commission where such issues have been considered. The Office of Chief Public Defender believes that until evidence exists that clearly demonstrates that registries are effective in reducing crime and do not negatively impact upon offenders as they attempt to re-enter the community, the creation of further registries should not be endorsed. Therefore, this office requests that no action be taken on either of these bills.