



# 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

**Testimony of Christine Perra Rapillo, Chief Public Defender  
Elisa Villa, Supervisor Assistant Public Defender  
Office of Chief Public Defender**

**Committee on the Judiciary  
March 26, 2018**

### **Raised Bill 5545, An Act Concerning Local and State Cooperation in the Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law**

The Office of Chief Public Defender **strongly opposes** Raised Bill 5545, An Act Concerning Local and State Cooperation in the Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law the Trust Act.

This proposal would mandate that local law enforcement detain anyone in their custody with a civil immigration detainer. This proposal would instill fear in the immigrant community and inhibit cooperation with the police and place our communities at risk. Currently, local law enforcement have discretion to determine when to detain an individual who is subject to a civil ICE detainer. Civil immigration detainees are not subject to the same standards as the issuance of a criminal warrant, which allows police to place an individual in custody. Local law enforcement agents should not be used to enforce federal law and our limited state and local resources should not be mandated to be utilized to assist Immigration Custom and Enforcement.