

## State of Connecticut Division of public defender services

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Testimony of Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel

**Judiciary Committee Public Hearing - February 15, 2019** 

Raised Bill 831 An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to Special Parole and Parole Discharge Statutes

The Office of Chief Public Defender supports passage of Raised Senate Bill 831 – An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to Special Parole and Parole Discharge Statutes. The bill would amend the statutes which pertain to the discharge of persons on parole or special parole. The board currently possesses the discretion under statute, in certain instances, to release a person on parole or terminate a period of special parole. This bill contains language technical in nature which clarifies the existing statutes as it pertains to the powers of the Board.

In addition, the bill increases the number of members on the panel that make such decisions from two to three. It is believed that these technical changes are necessary to carry out the duties of the Board. Thank you for your consideration.