



State of Connecticut
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

TESTIMONY OF CHIEF STATE'S ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER L. MORANO

IN SUPPORT OF:

**S.B. No. 442 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN
CRIMINAL STATUTES AND RESTRICTING THE DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL
INFORMATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
MARCH 13, 2006**

The Division of Criminal Justice respectfully requests the Committee's Joint Favorable Report for S.B. No. 442, An Act Concerning Revisions to Certain Criminal Statutes and Restricting the Disclosure of Personal Information of Employees of the Division of Criminal Justice. This is the Division's "technical bill," which includes various minor changes to criminal statutes to reflect our experiences in the field and changes necessary for the effective and efficient administration of the Division.

The changes to criminal statutes have been recommended by front-line prosecutors. Each year, we canvass our employees to ask for their recommendations for legislation. Each suggestion is reviewed and, where appropriate, presented to the General Assembly.

- Sections 1 and 2 clarify the laws dealing with the crime of failure to appear. This language would make it clear that an individual can be charged with failure to appear at any court hearing held pursuant to Section 53a-32. This specific legislation was generated by a ruling in New Haven where a Judge dismissed a charge of Failure to Appear for an individual who appeared for the initial hearing under Section 53a-32 but did not appear for subsequent hearings after the case was continued.
- Section 3 would allow all employees of the Division of Criminal Justice to request that their home address not be publicly disclosed. Currently, a variety of public safety personnel are covered by this provision, including prosecutors and former prosecutors. We are asking that the same protection be extended to all employees of the Division of Criminal Justice.
- Section 4 corrects a technical problem with Section 30-86, which deals with the sale or delivery of alcoholic beverages to minors. All this does is split the existing section into two numbered subsections to correct a purely technical problem that now exists with charging under the two provisions.

- Section 5 does exactly what the Statement of Purpose says: it resolves an irreconcilable conflict in the penalties for the crimes of Kidnapping in the First Degree and Kidnapping in the First Degree with a Firearm. Kidnapping in the First Degree is a class A felony, and as such carries a mandatory minimum penalty of ten years imprisonment pursuant to Section 53a-35a. Kidnapping in the First Degree with a Firearm - a more serious crime in that it involves an aggravating factor - in fact carries a lower mandatory penalty because of the way the statute is now written. This bill merely removes the inconsistent language and provides for the same penalty for both of these serious class A felony crimes.