



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Amendment

LCO No. 5072

HB0578105072HDO

Offered by:
REP. LAWLOR, 99th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5781 File No. 503 Cal. No. 338

"AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATES OF EMPLOYABILITY AND REHABILITATION."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There is established a
4 Connecticut Sentencing Task Force to review criminal justice and
5 sentencing policies and laws of this state for the purpose of creating a
6 more just, effective and efficient system of criminal sentencing.

7 (b) The task force shall be composed of the following members:

8 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
9 committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary;

10 (2) Two judges of the superior court, each of whom shall have been
11 a judge for at least ten years and have at least five years experience
12 presiding over cases in judicial district criminal courts, appointed by
13 the Chief Court Administrator;

14 (3) Two state's attorneys each of whom shall have at least ten years
15 experience as a prosecuting attorney and at least five years experience
16 prosecuting cases in judicial district criminal courts, appointed by the
17 Chief State's Attorney;

18 (4) Two public defenders each of whom shall have at least ten years
19 experience as a public defender and at least five years experience
20 representing defendants in judicial district criminal courts, appointed
21 by the Chief Public Defender;

22 (5) Two criminal defense lawyers each of whom shall have at least
23 fifteen years experience representing defendants in criminal cases, one
24 of whom shall be appointed by the criminal justice section of the
25 Connecticut Bar Association and one of whom shall be appointed by
26 the Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association;

27 (6) The executive director of the Court Support Services Division of
28 the Judicial Branch or the executive director's designee;

29 (7) The Commissioner of Correction or the commissioner's designee;

30 (8) The Chairperson of the Board of Pardons and Paroles or the
31 chairperson's designee;

32 (9) The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services or
33 the commissioner's designee;

34 (10) The Victim Advocate or the Victim Advocate's designee;

35 (11) The undersecretary of the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning
36 Division within the Office of Policy and Management;

37 (12) An assistant attorney general, appointed by the Attorney
38 General;

39 (13) Three municipal police chiefs, one of whom shall represent an
40 urban area, one of whom shall represent a suburban area and one of
41 whom shall represent a rural area, appointed by the Connecticut Police

42 Chiefs Association; and

43 (14) Six members of the General Assembly, appointed one each by
44 the president pro tempore of the Senate, the speaker of the House of
45 Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the majority leader
46 of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate and
47 the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

48 (c) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
49 Assembly on the judiciary shall serve as chairpersons of the task force.

50 (d) The task force shall:

51 (1) Identify overarching criminal justice and sentencing goals and
52 policies;

53 (2) Define current sentencing models including sentencing
54 guidelines, criteria, exemptions and enhancements;

55 (3) Analyze sentencing trends by offense types and offender
56 characteristics;

57 (4) Review the actual versus intended impact of sentencing policies;

58 (5) Determine the direct and indirect costs associated with
59 sentencing policies;

60 (6) Review the fines and terms of imprisonment specified for
61 violations of criminal statutes that are classified or unclassified felonies
62 or misdemeanors and make recommendations including, but not
63 limited to: (A) Whether crimes that are currently unclassified should
64 be classified; (B) whether certain classified crimes should be
65 reclassified or the penalties for certain unclassified crimes should be
66 revised in order to make the penalties for similar crimes more uniform;
67 (C) whether the penalty or type of penalty for certain crimes should be
68 revised or eliminated where such penalty or type of penalty is no
69 longer deemed necessary or appropriate or is disproportionate to the
70 severity of the crime; and (D) whether crimes that are obsolete should

71 be repealed; and

72 (7) Make any recommendations for the revision of criminal justice
73 and sentencing policies as deemed necessary.

74 (e) The Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the
75 Office of Policy and Management shall assist the task force by
76 providing criminal justice data, analyses and technical assistance
77 necessary for the task force to carry out its duties.

78 (f) The task force may request any office, department, board,
79 commission or other agency of the state to supply such reports,
80 information and assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in
81 order for the task force to carry out its duties. Each officer or employee
82 of such office, department, board, commission or other agency of the
83 state is authorized and directed to cooperate with the task force and to
84 furnish such reports, information and assistance.

85 (g) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
86 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary
87 in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes not later than
88 December 1, 2008. The task force shall terminate upon the completion
89 of its duties."