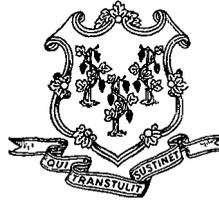


# State of Connecticut

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## PERMANENT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

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## Written Testimony of The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women Before the Judiciary Committee Monday, March 12, 2007

### In Support of:

**H.B. 7313, AAC Domestic Violence**  
**H.B. 7335 Persistent Offenders**

Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on the above referenced bills on behalf of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW).

We support H.B. 7313, AAC Domestic Violence, which would allow police officers to set nonfinancial conditions of release in domestic violence situations. This would provide additional protections to victims until the matter is addressed in court. This is critical because many domestic violence incidents occur on the weekends or during the holidays when access to courts are limited.

We also support H.B. 7335, AAC Persistent Offenders, which would provide that certain prior convictions for assault, stalking, trespass, threatening, harassment or criminal violation of a protective or restraining order are considered when classifying a person as a persistent offender of certain crimes. The listed offenses are often used to control and dominate victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. This bill would provide additional protection from sexual assault and domestic violence by enhancing penalties if a history of such behavior is evident.

We urge your support of these proposals.