

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
April 9, 2007

Testimony for Robert Farr, Chairman, Board of Pardons and Paroles

S.B. No. 186 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE RELEASE AND SALE OF CONVICTION INFORMATION AFTER A PARDON IS GRANTED, THE RESTORATION OF AN OPERATOR'S LICENSE AND THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL OPERATOR'S PERMIT.

Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and members of the Committee, I am submitting this testimony as the Chairman of the Board of Pardons and Paroles to support the intent, but to also address specific concerns regarding Sec. 2(b) of the above referenced bill.

The new language proposed in part (b) of Sec. 2 regarding (1) “update such information not later than two business days after related criminal history record information is erased, modified or corrected or when a pardon is granted” is unclear. The pardons process, as it currently stands, involves a final records check before a certificate is issued. The language should be amended to **“a reasonable number of days after a final records check, investigation and issuance of a “Certificate of Pardon” by the Board.”** Inserting this language would eliminate any confusion or premature claims regarding when the record is actually expunged and physically removed.

Clearinghouses that buy criminal record information from the Judicial Branch need to be held accountable for the information they disseminate, ensuring it is current and correct.

Please feel free to contact Rich Sparaco, my legislative liaison, or me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Robert Farr

Robert Farr, Chairman

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