

IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

**Raised Bill 1068
Wednesday, February 14th, 2007**

**Testimony of Mr. Ricardo Pagan
Whiting Forensic Division
70 O'Brien Drive
Middletown, Connecticut 06457**

Good morning, Honorable Members of the Public Health Committee. My name is Ricardo Pagan. I am an individual with psychiatric disabilities residing at Whiting Forensic Division of CVH. I am unable to testify in person on Raised Bill 1068 but I thank you for allowing me to submit this in writing.

Individuals in recovery should not be deprived of any rights protected by the Patient Bill Of Rights. The proposed legislation before you in Raised Bill 1068 must be denied because it was written by someone who is not familiar with the Whiting Forensic Division. Our property is already restricted per Unit Policy. We have no direct access to visitors and all the two recent searches were a direct product of employee negligence. In 2006 the Program Director has misplaced the Master Key and the building was searched. In January of 2007 we had another building search as a psychiatrist misplaced her key.

We are opposing Bill 1068 and request that you continue to protect the rights of individuals with psychiatric disabilities.

Thank you for your kind attention.