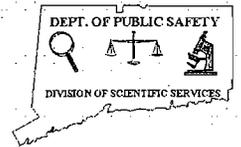




Public Hearing 3/16/08
Summed 3/27/08

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF SCIENTIFIC SERVICES**



*Lieutenant David E. Rice
Commanding Officer*

*Dr. Henry C. Lee
Chief Emeritus*

March 19, 2008

State Senator Andrew J. McDonald
Representative Michael P. Lawlor

Joint Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Office Building, Room 2500
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator McDonald and Representative Lawlor:

My name is Dr. Henry C. Lee. I am currently the Chief Emeritus for the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of Scientific Services and was the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety from 1998 to 2000. I served as Chief Criminalist for the State of Connecticut from 1979 to 2000.

Due to a prior commitment I am sorry but I am unable to personally appear before the committee. I would like to offer my testimony for the record as it relates to supporting House Bill 5034 - ***AN ACT CONCERNING DNA COLLECTION FROM CERTAIN ARRESTEES AND CONVICTED PERSONS.***

National and international records have shown that DNA is the best crime-fighting tool developed in recent years. At the same time DNA also exonerated hundreds of innocent people who were wrongfully convicted. DNA not only can link a criminal through CODIS DNA Databank but also protect a citizen from false arrest. The timely submission and analysis of DNA samples from convicted persons is the key to success.

HB5034 will also increase the chances of solving additional cold cases. The success of Connecticut's DNA Program at the State Police Forensic Laboratory further illustrates how well the system works. The expanded DNA program proposed under HB5034 will definitely help law enforcement protect our State and our society.

Sincerely,

Dr. Henry C. Lee