

**Judiciary Committee**  
Public Hearing: March 12, 2008

Testimony of Robert Farr – Chairman, Connecticut Sentencing Task Force

**Re: House Bill 5877 - An Act Concerning Terms of Probation**

Good Afternoon Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and members of the Judiciary Committee. I am submitting this testimony as Chairman of the Sentencing Task Force to support House Bill 5877 that would align the terms of probation with a model based on behavioral change and evidence-based practices.

This proposal has been made by the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch and was reviewed by the Sentencing Task Force. After several modifications, it received unanimous support. The Task Force believes that this bill would allow the Court Support Services Division to focus more resources at the beginning of the supervision and be more effective in modifying an offender's behavior. The bill also creates an incentive for offenders to comply with terms of probation by allowing the offender to have supervision terminated early based on successful performance.

On behalf of the Task Force, I urge adoption of this bill.