

Judiciary Committee
Public Hearing: March 16, 2009

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

**Re: House Bill 6664 - AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO VARIOUS STATUTES
CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.**

Good Afternoon Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and members of the Judiciary Committee. I am submitting this testimony in regard to Sec. 9. Of H.B. 6664, which calls for the repeal of Section 51-286f and the substitution of the following language:

The [prosecuting official in a criminal proceeding shall request that a transcript be prepared of any sentencing hearing] court in any sentencing hearing at which a defendant is sentenced to a definite, nonsuspended sentence of more than two years imprisonment [and] shall cause a copy of [such] the transcript of such hearing to be delivered to the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

I am supportive of the intent of this bill which is to simplify the process of getting transcripts to the Parole Board. I would however suggest one change in the language. Specifically, I would like to suggest that you modify the language so that the board could have electronic access to these transcripts instead of mandating that a paper copy be sent to the Board. I would also like to suggest that you allow time for representatives from the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Judicial Branch, and States Attorney's Office to meet and draft acceptable substitute language. Thank-you