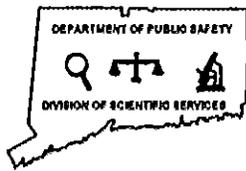


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STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henlon
Chief of Staff

March 22, 2010

State Senator Andrew J. McDonald
Representative Michael P. Lawlor
Joint Committee on Judiciary
Room 2500, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

HB 5030 AAC THE FORFEITURE OF MONEY AND PROPERTY RELATED TO CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

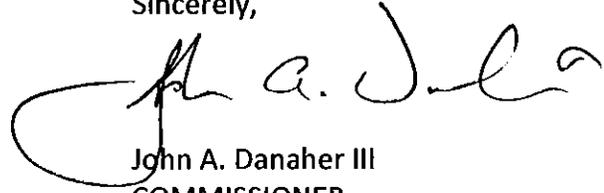
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SUPPORTS THIS BILL

The concept of Asset Forfeiture is not new to the State of Connecticut. The ability to forfeit monies and property from those involved in the illegal sale of narcotics, pursuant to Conn. Gen.Stat. § 54-36h, has been in existence since 1986.

The enactment of this bill would provide law enforcement agencies and prosecutors battling crimes involving the sexual exploitation of children and trafficking of humans with an effective tool that would attack the very root that motivates those who are involved in these criminal enterprises, greed. The ability of the state to forfeit profits, equipment, vehicles, and buildings that serve as the infrastructure for these criminal activities will constitute a significant step in reducing the opportunity for these enterprises to continue to operate and, it is hoped, will affect the motivation of other individuals to become involved in these crimes. The exact size and extent of the crimes outlined in this bill are not entirely known. The FBI estimated in a 2006 report on Human Trafficking that yearly profits of nearly 9 million dollars are attributed to human trafficking around the world. The report goes on to estimate that 15,000 to 18,000 people are trafficked each year in the United States. Likewise, in a February 2006 report from TopTenREVIEWS, a publisher of Internet reviews, it was estimated that there are 100,000 websites offering child pornography with profits estimated at three billion dollars annually.

As the criminal element continues to seek new ways to utilize the internet and other computer technologies to commit and aid in the commission of crimes, the criminal justice system needs to have the added ability, through this proposed forfeiture tool, to deprive this criminal element of the financial resources it needs to commit crimes against children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

John A. Danaher III
COMMISSIONER