



State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

OFFICE OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER
30 TRINITY STREET - 4th Floor
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(860) 509-6405 Telephone
(860) 509-6495 Fax

DEBORAH Del PRETE SULLIVAN
LEGAL COUNSEL/
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER
deborah.d.sullivan@jud.ct.gov

Testimony of Deborah Del Prete Sullivan,
Legal Counsel/Executive Assistant Public Defender
Office of Chief Public Defender

Raised Bill No.475
An Act Concerning Nonviolent Offenders
Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
March 19, 2010

The Office of Chief Public Defender supports passage of *Raised Bill No. 475, An Act Concerning Nonviolent Offenders*. Section 1 of the bill would require the Bail Commissioner to assess the risk of a defendant arrested for a crime that does not involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against a person and make a recommendation as to whether the defendant should be released pre-trial subject to electronic monitoring.

Section 2 permits a probation officer in preparing the presentence investigation report to assess the risk of whether the defendant convicted for a crime that does not involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against a person would reoffend and recommend whether he/she should be sentenced to probation conditioned on electronic monitoring in his/her home.

Section 3 would allow a probationer or parolee arrested for a new crime that does do not involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another to be monitored electronically within their home if after being assessed as to his/her risk of reoffending. A recommendation must be made to the court or the parole board by the supervising officer of CSSD or corrections.

By placing persons convicted of non-violent offenses who are not at risk of reoffending in the future on electronic monitoring, it is believed that a savings can be realized in lieu of incarceration.