

Department of Correction

Testimony of Brian K. Murphy, Acting Commissioner

Judiciary Committee

Raised Bill No. 5522, *An Act Concerning Juvenile Matters*

March 19, 2010

Good morning, Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and members of the Judiciary Committee. The Department of Correction has some concerns about the proposed provision in section 10 of Raised Bill No. 5522, *An Act Concerning Juvenile Matters*.

Section 10 of the bill calls for the sight and sound separation of any child confined in a community correctional center, which is not feasible, as Admitting and Processing Units hold many inmates in separate holding cells. Currently, the majority of youthful offenders are transported directly from the courts to either Manson Youth Institution or York Correctional Institution by State Marshalls. If a youthful offender does come into a community correctional center, he is held in an area separate from adult offenders. Due to the design of the Admitting and Processing areas within a facility, we cannot guarantee that there would be sight and sound separation.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on Raised Bill No. 5522.