



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**

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**Testimony of Stephen N. Ment  
Program Review and Investigations Committee  
Public Hearing  
March 8, 2010**

**Senate Bill 269, An Act Implementing The Recommendations Of The Program  
Review and Investigations Committee Concerning An Initiative To Share  
Agency Data To Promote the Well-Being Of Children and Families**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in regards to *Senate Bill 269, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning an Initiative to Share Agency Data to Promote the Well-Being of Children and Families*. The bill directs the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to develop and implement policies and procedures to promote information sharing among the myriad agencies involved with the safety, health, and well-being of children.

The Judicial Branch strongly supports efforts to improve communication and information sharing among agencies with the goal of safe-guarding the health and welfare of children. Please note, however, that this bill would merely be a first step towards achieving this laudable goal. Extensive statutory revision is necessary; in fact, at least two committees - the confidentiality sub-committee of the Executive Implementation Team of the Joint Juvenile Justice Strategic Plan, and the data sub-committee of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council - have been tasked with reviewing and recommending necessary statutory changes that would make it possible to implement this bill. Furthermore, additional resources will be required to implement the integration of automated data systems contemplated in the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.