

Dear Appropriations Committee,

I am saddened and disgusted by the decision that has been made to eliminate 22 parole officers from their positions.

These parole officers are dedicated to the children and their families. They make sure these children get the best possible care for their situation. They also help the families understand what their child is experiencing and how we can help them. If it wasn't for the constant counseling and assistance that my grandson's parole officer has given him and my family, we wouldn't have made the progress that we have. She is never too busy to answer any questions that we may have and always leads us in the right direction for any assistance we might need. She also makes sure that my grandson gets the best possible treatment at the residential facility where he resides.

These parole officers have dedicated their lives to help these children. Not only would it be a terrible loss to the state of CT, but it would be devastating to these children who need their help and attention.

By eliminating these positions, you will be taking away from the children of this state. They need the guidance and protection that these parole officers give them and their families. I am fearful that they will be shoved under the carpet, because there will not be enough parole officers left in this state to ensure their safety!!!

Please, for once, put the children's needs first. They need these parole officers!!!

Thankyou,

Judy Thulin and Family