

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins
Acting Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henlon
Chief of Staff

March 9, 2011

Rep. Gerald M. Fox, Co-Chairman
Sen. Eric D. Coleman, Co-Chairman
Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

HB 6538 AAC The Collection of Blood and Other Biological Samples for DNA Analysis

The Department of Public Safety supports this proposal.

The intent of this bill is to ensure that individuals convicted of felony crimes provide a sufficient quantity of DNA sample for entry into the Convicted Offender Database, (CODIS). Currently, if a convicted offender fails to provide a "sufficient quantity" there is no statutory authority for government officials to have the individual offender retested. The Department of Public Safety, Division of Scientific Services, which analyzes blood and biological samples for DNA, has approximately fifty cases in which convicted offenders failed to provide a sufficient sample. When convicted offenders fail to provide sufficient samples it precludes the DNA unit from checking the convicted offender database, CODIS, to unsolved crime and provides a disservice to victims of crime.

Additionally, this bill allows forensic laboratory staff within the DNA section to advise law enforcement officials as to whether a DNA profile developed during the investigatory phase is contained in the CODIS databank. This will assist in eliminating suspects or identifying suspects perpetrating criminal acts, providing for efficiency gains to law enforcement. Currently the DNA section cannot supply and or provide information as to whose profile resides in the CODIS database.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Colonel Danny R. Stebbins".

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins
ACTING COMMISSIONER