



State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

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Testimony of
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Raised Bill No. 1234
An Act Concerning Nondisclosure of Residential Addresses of
Certain Public Officials and Employees

Public Hearing - Judiciary Committee
April 8, 2011

The Office of Chief Public Defender opposes Raised Bill No. 1234, An Act Concerning Nondisclosure of Residential Addresses of Certain Public Officials and Employees. Disclosure by a public agency of the residential address of certain state employees, including public defenders and social workers employed by the Division of Public Defender Services, is prohibited. However, the statute does not prohibit disclosure by town assessors and registrars of the very same addresses of these protected employees.

The bill clarifies existing law and eliminates this loophole. This Office has testified in the past in regard to incidences in which its attorneys and other employees have been the subject of threats and physical injury by persons they have been appointed to represent. Passage of this bill would achieve consistency in the application of the prohibition. In addition, the public safety of these employees and their families would not be diminished.

In conclusion, this Office requests that the Committee report favorably on this bill.