

CCDLA
"Ready in the Defense of Liberty"
Founded 1988

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Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
April 1, 2011

TESTIMONY OF JENNIFER L. ZITO, PRESIDENT OF
THE CONNECTICUT CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION,
IN SUPPORT OF RAISED BILLS NOS. 1095, 1229, 6634, 6636,
6637 AND 6638

Dear Chairman Coleman, Chairman Fox and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I submit this written testimony on behalf of the CCDLA in support of the following raised bills:

1. CCDLA supports Raised Bill 1095, An Act Limiting The Use Of Restraints On A Child Who Is Subject To A Delinquency Proceeding, and hereby adopts the testimony of the Chief Public Defender's Office in support of this bill which seeks to amend the law to prevent restraining juveniles in shackles or other devices prior to adjudication unless the judge determines it is necessary for public safety or the child in being transported from one place to another;
2. CCDLA supports Raised Bill 1229, An Act Concerning Evidence And Detention In Juvenile Matters providing for pre-trial detention credit for juveniles and hereby adopts the testimony of the Chief Public Defender's Office in support of this bill;
3. CCDLA supports Raised Bill 6634, An Act Concerning Child Welfare and Detention In Juvenile Justice System And Erasure Of Juvenile Records, and adopts the testimony of the Chief Public Defender's Office relative to this bill;
4. CCDLA supports Raised Bill 6636, An Act Concerning Children Convicted As Delinquent Who Are Committed To The Custody Of The Commissioner Of Children And Families, to amend C.G.S. §17a-7a to increase the Commissioner's ability to formulate reentry plans for committed delinquent