



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**

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**Testimony of Stephen N. Ment  
Public Health Committee Public Hearing  
February 9, 2011**

**Senate Bill 852, An Act Concerning Supportive Housing Initiatives**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in support of **Senate Bill 852, An Act Concerning Supportive Housing Initiatives**. The bill, in part, adds the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division (CSSD) to the list of entities that the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) will collaborate with in order to establish supportive housing initiatives.

Under existing law, the Supportive Housing Initiative provides CSSD clients, who have serious mental health needs, with affordable housing and support services. While the Judicial Branch currently collaborates with DMHAS and other state agencies in supportive housing initiatives, we welcome the opportunity presented by this bill to codify and solidify this relationship.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of this bill.