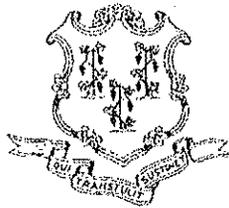


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERJames M. Thomas
CommissionerLieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff

February 15, 2011

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman
Sen. Joan Hartley, Co-Chairman
Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

HB 6113 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INVESTIGATION OF MISSING PERSONS REPORTS

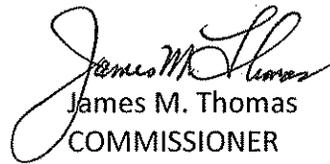
The Department of Public Safety advises of fiscal impact and other concerns.

This proposed bill would adopt a required statutory procedure in regard to missing persons and mandate compliance with all of its statutory procedures by Connecticut law enforcement agencies, including the Connecticut State Police. The Department of Public Safety believes that great caution should be exercised in enacting statutory mandates for law enforcement procedure. The Connecticut State Police and all of Connecticut's municipal police departments have limited resources with which to carry out a wide range of public safety responsibilities. This bill would require that "The unit of the Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety that investigates missing adult persons shall, as appropriate, enter all collected information relating to a missing adult person case into the National Crime Information Center database and any other applicable federal database with all practicable speed." The Department of Public Safety does not have a Missing Person Unit. These functions have been covered to the *most basic* level by the Message Center personnel. The law enforcement agency receiving the missing person report should be responsible for NCIC and any other databases that the data needs to be entered in. The Department of Public Safety does not presently have the resources to handle this. It would take a large, fully staffed 24x7 unit to enter everyone's missing persons into NCIC.

The Department of Public currently already has specific mandated procedures in its A&O manual setting forth requirements for handling of missing persons cases. Those procedures were recently updated and revised and encompass some of the intent of this proposed bill.

Passage of this bill would have additional fiscal impact as it requires that DNA samples be taken from homicide victims and from John or Jane Does who are in a coma, have amnesia or have Alzheimer's disease. If this bill is passed, the language requiring DNA of homicide victims should be limited to unidentified homicide victims, as taking DNA when identity is known would be waste of resources unless it is taken for some purpose other than identifying missing persons.

Sincerely,



James M. Thomas
COMMISSIONER