

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

*James M. Thomas
Commissioner*

*Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff*

February 10, 2011

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

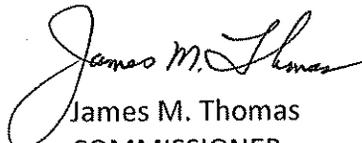
SB 695 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GUN OFFENDER REGISTRY

The Department of Public Safety questions need for bill and advises of fiscal impact.

This proposed bill would amend the general statutes to require persons who commit certain firearm offenses to register certain identifying information with the Commissioner of Public Safety and require the commissioner to maintain a gun offender registry available to local and state law enforcement officers.

A requirement to create and maintain a gun offender registry would have significant fiscal impact to the agency and the state. The public safety value of such a registry is questionable as arrest information for persons convicted of firearms offenses can easily be found utilizing the traditional record checks through National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI). In addition, many of these convicted offenders are under the supervision of either parole or probation and, as a consequence, are required to register their addresses, etc. As a rule, parole and probation coordinate with local law enforcement as well.

Sincerely,


James M. Thomas
COMMISSIONER