



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Testimony

In Support OF H.B. 6192

An Act Requiring The Department Of Motor Vehicles To Extend The Operator's Licenses Renewal Date For Certain Incarcerated Persons

Transportation Committee
Monday, February 28, 2011

Dear Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrera, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and fellow members of the Transportation Committee:

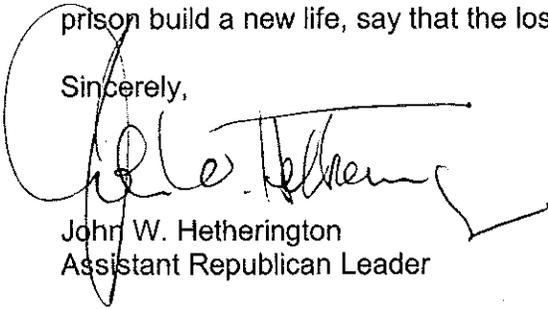
Respectfully I urge you to give favorable consideration to House Bill 6192.

This measure would allow an incarcerated person to obtain an extension on his or her driver's License for a period of two years or thirty days from the date of release. This extension presumably would expire on the earlier of either date.

The ability of a prison inmate to obtain a job on release often depends on having an operator's license. A possible job may involve operating a vehicle. Also, driving a car may be necessary simply to reach a place of employment and travel regularly between home and work.

Currently if person who is incarcerated loses their license because they are unable to appear in person to renew it, they must start from the beginning of the process to obtain a new license. In the meantime the individual cannot drive or take a job that involves driving thus, creating an additional barrier to rehabilitation. People who devote their efforts to helping those coming out of prison build a new life, say that the loss of a driver's license is one of the major obstacles.

Sincerely,



John W. Hetherington
Assistant Republican Leader