



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PAUL J. KNIERIM, JUDGE
Probate Court Administrator

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To: Senate Co-Chair Eric Coleman
House Co-Chair Gerald Fox
Senate Ranking Member John Kissel
House Ranking Member John Hetherington
Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

From: Paul J. Knierim
Probate Court Administrator

Re: RB 5150 An Act Concerning the CT Uniform Adult Protective
Proceedings Jurisdiction Act

Date: March 5, 2012

The Office of the Probate Court Administrator supports adoption of this bill.

This uniform law seeks to address problems that arise regularly in courts across the nation when individuals involved in conservatorship proceedings have connections with more than one state. To address these concerns, the UAPPJA seeks to establish uniform and nationwide procedures to address the issues associated with interstate conservatorship matters.

The bill would establish a mechanism to determine which state is the most appropriate to act, thereby avoiding conflicting proceedings in multiple states. Procedures would be established to effectuate transfers between states in a specified and efficient manner. Emergency appointments would be authorized to safeguard the individual while the jurisdictional issues are sorted out. The bill would authorize states to recognize the conservatorship orders of another state and provide a mechanism to register out of state orders to ensure that the authority of a conservator appointed by another state is clear.

As we have seen in recent years, the number of instances involving interstate conservatorship issues is on the increase. The enactment of this bill is timely and necessary for the protection of the interests of the disabled persons who are the subject of these orders, and to do so in the speediest, simplest, and most efficient way.

We have worked with the proponents of this bill to craft language that will meet the goals of the uniform law, comport with existing procedures and preserve due process rights under Connecticut law. We urge the committee's approval.
