

Department of Correction
Testimony of Leo C. Arnone, Commissioner
Department of Correction

Judiciary Committee
Raised Bill No. 5389, *An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana*
March 7, 2012

The Department of Correction (DOC) prohibits the possession or use of drugs or drug paraphernalia by an inmate under its custody, control or community supervision and is pleased to see the language in lines 53 through 57 of House Bill 5389, which would exclude from the definition of "qualifying patient" an inmate confined in a DOC facility. While we believe this language would also exclude an inmate who is residing in a halfway house under community supervision of the DOC, the language, as currently drafted, would not exclude an inmate who has been released to parole or to Transitional Supervision. The DOC respectfully suggests amending the exclusion language in lines 55 through 57 to read, "qualifying patient" does not include an inmate as defined in section 18-84 of the general statutes."

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this matter.