



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Patricia A. Rehmer, MSN
Commissioner

Testimony by Patricia Rehmer, MSN, Commissioner
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Before the Public Health Committee
March 7, 2012

Good morning Sen. Gerratana, Rep. Ritter, and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee. I am Commissioner Patricia Rehmer of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and I am here this morning to speak in favor of **HB 5064, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES' REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**. I want to thank the Committee for your assistance in raising this proposal.

The bill before you HB 5064 would combine and eliminate some reporting requirements for our department. Retirements and hiring freezes have made it more difficult to attend to the many tasks before us. We have had to prioritize our resources and in doing so, looked at our reporting requirements. We are asking that you combine three separate reports on substance use treatment and that you eliminate a general hospital reporting requirement to DMHAS that no longer has any value.

I appreciate the time and attention you have given to this matter, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.