

Re: HB 6581 An Act Concerning Recommendations of the CT Sentencing Commission Regarding Lengthy Sentences for Crimes Committed by a Child or Youth

March 8, 2013

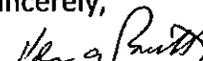
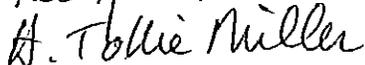
To Whom It May Concern:

We are in support of the proposed changes recommended by the CT Sentencing Commission with respect to lengthy sentences committed by children or youths. It is just and appropriate that minors serving lengthy terms receive a mandatory review of their sentences and the possibility for early parole.

Children and youths under 18 have yet to fully develop emotionally, mentally, or biologically. As such, impulsivity and poor judgment may be significant contributing factors in their crimes. Should such persons be judged suitable for release on parole by the Board of Pardons and Paroles, they should be afforded the possibility of early release after ten years or one half of their sentence.

While working within the correctional system as volunteers, we have become aware of such cases, in which juveniles were caught up in a crime and have now spent the greater part of lives imprisoned. To afford them the opportunity to rejoin society seems just, given good behavior and rehabilitation.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Rossetti
H. Tollie Miller
88 Kenmore Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002