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## **House Bill 6702 - AN ACT CONCERNING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**House Judiciary Committee  
April 15, 2013**

The Pew-MacArthur Results First initiative, a project supported by The Pew Charitable Trusts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation works with states to implement an innovative cost-benefit analysis tool that helps them invest in policies and programs that are proven to work in the most cost-effective way. Results First is currently working with fourteen states, including Connecticut, to incorporate evidence into policy and budget deliberations.

Pew, on behalf of Results First, is pleased to support Section 20 of House Bill 6702 requiring the assessment of Judicial Branch family violence intervention programs in accordance with data from the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative's analysis of such programs.

Utilizing a cost-benefit analysis tool originally developed by the Washington State Institute of Public Policy, Results First provides states with a mechanism for calculating programs' potential return on investment across a range of policy options, taking into account both the short- and long-term effect on taxpayers, program participants, and residents who are most directly affected. States are then able to use the data to rank programs based on their expected benefits, costs, and risks and assess the combined benefits and costs of a "portfolio" of programs and policy options, instead of analyzing each program separately.

At the invitation of Governor Dannel Malloy, Senate President Pro Tempore Donald Williams, Jr., and House Speaker Christopher Donavon, Results First began working with the State of Connecticut in 2011. With continued support of Executive and Legislative leadership, Results First has partnered with the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University to gather information on state programs and incorporate the data into the state-specific cost-benefit model.

The sponsors are to be commended for recognizing the importance of this evidence-based approach and for taking the steps necessary to ensure that family violence programs are evaluated utilizing this method. It is for these reasons that we respectfully request your favorable consideration of Section 20 of HB 6702 related to the use of the Results First model. Should the Judiciary Committee have any questions regarding the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, we would be pleased to provide additional information or attend a meeting of the Committee.

