State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

OFFICE OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER
30 TRINITY STREET - 4th Floor
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

DEBORAH DEL PRETE SULLIVAN
LEGAL COUNSEL/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER
(860) 509-6405 Telephone
(860) 509-6495 Fax
deborah.d.sullivan@jud.ct.gov

Testimony of
Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel
Office of Chief Public Defender

Raised Bill No. 828
An Act Concerning Sexual Offender Registration Requirements For Certain Persons Granted Temporary Leave By The Psychiatric Security Review Board

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
February 13, 2013

The Office of Chief Public Defender believes that *Raised Bill No. 828, An Act Concerning Sexual Offender Registration Requirements For Certain Persons Granted Temporary Leave By The Psychiatric Security Review Board* (PSRB) is unnecessary. Currently a person in this situation is already under intensive supervision by the PSRB and Connecticut Valley Hospital. The statutory mandate of the PSRB is to protect public safety. This proposed bill would require a person under the supervision of the PSRB and Connecticut Valley Hospital who is released on a temporary leave "to an approved residence" to register as a sex offender with the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP).

Officially, such a person already has two residences, Connecticut Valley Hospital and the community residence which has been approved for a temporary leave. Passage of this bill would require a person to register as a sex offender prior to the person being released from the PSRB. It is believed that the proposed bill may create unnecessary notification obligations requiring a person to notify the police each time he/she goes between Connecticut Valley Hospital and the approved community residence. As a result, the change of residence reporting requirements imposed upon a person who is required to register as a sex offender could set the person up for failure and result in unnecessary criminal consequences.

Duplicative supervision may also result in a need for increased financial resources to facilitate the registration, registry and supervision requirements of a person already under the intense supervision of the PSRB and Connecticut Valley Hospital. As a result, this office believes that this bill is unnecessary.