



Testimony of Maureen Price-Boreland

ON

H.B. No. 6824 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2017, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE TO MOVE THE ADULT SERVICES OF CSSD TO DOC

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Phone number 860 566-2030

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My name is Maureen Price-Boreland, I am the Executive Director for Community Partners in Action, a 140 year old organization that provides statewide services with facilities located in Hartford, Manchester, Waterbury and Hamden. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of Connecticut Association of Nonprofits.

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to the proposal in H.B. No. 6824 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2017, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO REVENUE to move ADULT SERVICES FROM CSSD to DOC

CPA has been a longstanding partner with the Judicial Branch for nearly 25 years providing both nonresidential and residential services for Adult Probation, Bail and Family Services referrals. CPA has operated Alternative in the Community (AIC) programs since the Judicial Branch first contracted for this service. Together, CPA and CSSD have developed a highly professional, effective and proven network of combined services that reduce offender recidivism.

The provision of Alternative services to the citizens of Connecticut has been proven as a cost effective way of addressing nonviolent behaviors that are deemed a crime however are better managed in the community versus through the very costly system of incarceration.

The Department of Correction infrastructure has primarily been focused and charged with custody and security. The DOC does work with many nonprofit providers and continues to build on its re-entry model however they are not currently positioned to assume management of diversionary programs pre incarceration.

If the goal of this proposed restructuring is to improve efficiencies, it is not readily apparent how this would be achieved however a recommended coordination and standardization of contracting services may be found in the Governor's Nonprofit Cabinet report (2014). This report offers options for establishing a consistent framework. The Cabinet's recommendations were developed through joint efforts between state agencies and nonprofit leaders who hold Purchase of Service Contracts.

Removing CSSD Adult Services from the Judicial Branch and placing that function in the Department of Correction would significantly jeopardize all of the hard work that has taken place to build one of the finest criminal justice government / community based provider partnerships in the country. The services CPA provides for CSSD's adult services referrals are evidenced based services that are quality assured and have very high level of oversight to ensure program fidelity. Removing the adult services program referral and oversight function from the Judicial Branch would in my opinion be a misguided and not in the best interest of the clients and the communities we serve within our state.

Thank You.