



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of Stephen N. Ment**  
**Judiciary Committee Public Hearing**  
**March 4, 2015**

**House Bill 6926, An Act Concerning Lengthy Sentences for Crimes  
Committed by a Child or Youth**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch on **House Bill 6926, *An Act Concerning Lengthy Sentences for Crimes Committed by a Child or Youth***. The Judicial Branch is opposed to sections 10 and 11 of the bill, which would require a judge, in all cases, to calculate a defendant's earliest possible release date at the time of sentencing.

Requiring a judge to make the complicated calculations envisioned by the bill would not only be burdensome to the court, but would serve a limited purpose. In essence, it would be nothing more than a prediction since it would rely on factors not known at the time of sentencing, such as the future conduct of the inmate during incarceration. Additionally, judges would need to devote more time to each case in order to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of the information to be indicated at sentencing, resulting in undue delay.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to these two sections.