



State of Connecticut
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

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Testimony of
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R.B. No. 7052
An Act Concerning Restrictions on Persons Running for
Public Office Who Have Violated the Public Trust

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
April 1, 2015

The Office of Chief Public Defender is opposed to **R.B. No. 7052, An Act Concerning Restrictions on Persons Running For Public Office Who Have Violated the Public Trust**. The bill would prohibit from running for public office those persons who pled guilty or nolo contendere, or who were convicted of state or federal crimes that were related to a municipal, state or federal public office or a campaign for such. Pursuant to the bill, this prohibition would exist even if the person completed serving the sentence imposed for such and has thereby served his debt to society, the conviction was decades old or was the person's only conviction. Consistent with that portion of the testimony submitted in regard to **S.B. No. 1046, An Act Prohibiting Felons From Managing State Assistance Funds**, in which this office advocates for giving persons a second chance, the Office of Chief Public Defender believes that passage of this bill would be contrary to the good public policy this state has thus far enacted. Therefore, this office respectfully requests that the Committee take no action on this bill. Thank you.