



State of Connecticut

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Sen. Martin Testimony In Support of S.B. 1129 **Judiciary Committee** **April 1st, 2015**

Chairman Coleman, Chairman Tong, Vice Chairman Doyle, Vice Chairman Fox, Ranking Members Kissel and Rebinbas and members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am Senator Henri Martin, and I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 1129: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY AND TRACK THE HOMELESS, ADDICTED OR MENTALLY ILL PERSONS ENTERING THE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND CONCERNING THE EARNED RISK REDUCTION CREDIT PROGRAM.

I am testifying today, specifically in regards to how this legislation addresses the Earned Risk Reduction Credit Program.

This legislation would impose additional system accountability and oversight when dealing with Earned Risk Reduction Credits. It would require Wardens to review and approve all credits earned by eligible inmates – this additional oversight and accountability is a positive step forward in keeping our communities safe.

In addition, this legislation protects the public's well-being by adding manslaughter, persistent dangerous felons and sex offenders, aggravated sexual assault of a minor, and assault of pregnant women resulting in the loss of a fetus to a list of crimes for which an inmate cannot earn Risk Reduction Credits.

Local leaders and constituents, throughout my district, have expressed strong support for this bill. Passing this legislation is a necessary step in protecting our communities and preserving the sense of security all of our constituents need and deserve.

Thank you for your consideration of S.B. 1129.

Best Regards,

Senator Henri Martin
31st District