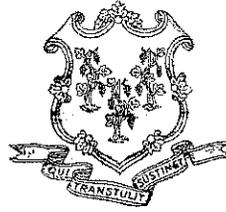


SENATOR MARTIN M. LOONEY
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Eleventh District
New Haven, Hamden & North Haven



State of Connecticut
SENATE

State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591
132 Fort Hale Road
New Haven, Connecticut 06512
Home: 203-468-8829
Capitol: 860-240-8600
Toll-free: 1-800-842-1420
www.SenatorLooney.cga.ct.gov

February 17, 2015

Good afternoon Sen. Bartolomeo, Representative Urban and members of the Committee on Children. I would like to offer my support for SB 622 An Act Concerning Access to Records of the Department of Children and Families. Clearly there is a need for robust confidentiality to protect children who receive DCF services. However, we must make sure that the policy requiring strict confidentiality has at its core the protection of these children and not the shielding others who do not need this protection. The confidentiality policy should not become a barrier for parents who are looking for answers regarding care that their children have received.

This bill would create a narrow exception to the confidentiality of certain information only when there has been a criminal conviction and the conduct of DCF staff is in question. This would seem reasonable since if there has been a conviction in criminal court, DCF would have to have allowed access to this information for the purposes of the case. When that is the case, parents should, in general, have access to this information as well. Thank you for hearing this important bill.