



**Connecticut Department of Public Health**

**Testimony Presented Before the Public Health Committee**

**February 20, 2015**

**Commissioner Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA  
860-509-7101**

**House Bill # 6267 An Act Creating a Task Force To Study the Department of Public Health's  
Involvement in the Family Court System**

The Department provides the following information regarding House Bill 6267.

HB 6267 creates a task force to study the Department of Public Health's investigation and hearing process, and role in providing oversight of mental health professionals involved in custody matters within the family court system.

The Department's involvement with the family court is limited to licensing the professionals who provide assessments or other services to clients involved in family court. These practitioners include Marriage and Family Therapists, Psychologists, Professional Counselors, and Licensed Clinical Social Workers who provide services either at the direction of the court system or as required by the court system.

The Department investigates complaints against all health care professionals, including practitioners involved with the court system. In order for an investigation to be initiated, DPH requires a written complaint regarding the individual practitioner. The number of complaints received each year by the Department against licensees providing services to clients involved with family court represents a small percentage of the total of complaints received against all licensed providers.

Thank you for your consideration of this information regarding this bill.