Office of Chief Public Defender
State of Connecticut

30 TRINITY STREET, 4TH FLOOR
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
TEL (860)509-6429
FAX (860-509-6499
susan.storey@jud.ct.gov

ATTORNEY SUSAN O. STOREY
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

Testimony of
Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Director

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing - March 23, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5634
An Act Concerning the Costs of Extraditing Fugitives

The Office of Chief Public Defender is concerned about the potential imposition of a fee for persons convicted of a failure to appear as contemplated in Sections 5 and 6 of this *Bill 5634, An Act Concerning the Costs of Extraditing Fugitives.* Under the bill, upon a prosecutor making a motion, a person who is convicted of a failure to appear in the first or second degree, could be ordered by the court to pay a fee not to exceed $50. The fee would be payable to the newly established Criminal Justice Bail Bonds Extradition Account which is established under Section 1 of this legislation.

While noting that the imposition of the fee by the court is discretionary, the Office of Chief Public Defender requests that language be inserted that exempts those so convicted and who are represented by court appointed counsel *C.G.S. §51-296, Designation of public defender for indigent defendant, codefendant. Legal services and guardians ad litem in family relations matters and juvenile matters. Contracts for legal services,* as follows:

Insert at the end of lines 100 and 116:

except that any person so convicted who is represented by counsel appointed by the court pursuant to C.G.S. § 51-296 shall be exempt from paying such fee due to indigency.