



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Proposed Bill No. 237

LCO No. 1682



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.
SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE
ENHANCED COMMUNITY SERVICES TO THOSE IN THE CRIMINAL
JUSTICE SYSTEM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to provide that: (1) The Chief
2 Court Administrator shall establish a pilot program to serve the
3 geographical area courts for New Haven, New London and Norwich
4 in the judicial districts of New Haven and New London in identifying
5 and tracking the homeless, addicted or mentally ill persons entering
6 the criminal justice system; (2) the office of the state's attorney for each
7 such judicial district shall screen in order to identify and track persons
8 arrested who are homeless, drug addicted or mentally ill for intensive
9 assistance, and shall refer such persons to diversion programs,
10 counseling, treatment, housing assistance and reentry programs in an
11 effort to stabilize such person and prevent future arrests of such
12 person, provided the office retains the discretion to dispose of any case
13 in any manner, with a focus on alternatives to incarceration and that
14 the court shall maintain jurisdiction over the cases to ensure
15 compliance with any ordered treatment or counseling; and (3) the

16 Chief Court Administrator shall establish policies and procedures to
17 implement the pilot program established pursuant to subdivision (1) of
18 this act and, on or before February 1, 2018, shall submit a report to the
19 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
20 of matters relating to judiciary, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
21 general statutes, concerning the implementation of the pilot program.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide enhanced community services to those in the criminal justice system to address their physical, mental and community needs, assist in community reentry and avoid recidivism.