Bill No.: SB-1086
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING REPEAT DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OFFENDERS.
Vote Date: 4/12/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/29/2019
File No.: 801

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SPONSORS OF BILL:
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

REASONS FOR BILL:
Senator George S. Logan of the 17th Senatorial District proposed this bill.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES, CHRISTINE PERRA RAPILLO, CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER: Opposes this bill. This bill increases the mandatory minimum sentences as well as monetary fines for repeat driving under the influence offenders. These mandatory minimum sentences of incarceration for second and third offenses are in addition to mandatory fines of up to $4000.00 and $8000.00 respectively, community service, probation, alcohol or drug abuse assessments, treatment if ordered and any fees and costs associated with any of these conditions. In addition, anyone so convicted must install an ignition interlock device on their motor vehicle in order to have their license restored. For indigent persons, this has resulted in lifetime suspension of their licenses. The reason is that they are unable to pay the costly fees for the installation, calibration, monitoring, maintenance and un-installation. As a result, indigent persons so convicted are already treated more harshly in the denial of the restoration of their license.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:
MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING, BOB GARGUOLO, STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Supports this bill. Mothers Against Drunk Driving supports S.B. 1086 to increase penalties imposed upon persons for repeat offenses of driving under the influence of intoxicating drugs or liquor.
WILLIAM MOFFETT JR.: Mr. Moffett submitted an article entitled “Cannabinoid Markers in Biological Fluids and Tissues: Revealing Intake” by Marilyn A. Huestis and Michael L. Smith. Said article detailed the effects of cannabinoids on the human body.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

TODD ROMANKO, TERRYVILLE, CT,: Opposes this bill. Mr. Tomanko told of his years long odyssey of court hearings and appeals for his conviction of drunk driving. He feels that the length of time for his suspension and fines and fees charged for the installation and maintenance of the IID are excessive as well.

Reported by: George Marinelli May 6, 2019