

Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-889

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND PLANNING
DIVISION AND THE PUBLICATION OF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS BY

Title: THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT.

Vote Date: 3/29/2021

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2021

File No.: 485

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill comes to the Judiciary Committee from OPM, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division. This bill will require a new annual report on criminal justice cross-system trends, collapse multiple reports into one, prioritize presentations and reports under the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission, and update requirements to enable the division to broaden its scope to include more front-end system analyses. By updating reporting requirements, this bill will require OPM CJPPD to contribute data analysis to state-level strategies to address crime challenges, lower victimization, provide treatment to behavioral health needs from the criminal justice system, address disparities, and increase diversion. This bill is the first major update to the statutory requirements of the Office of Policy and Management Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division since its inception in 2006.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, Undersecretary, Marc Pelka; supports this bill stating that it causes OPM CJPPD to broaden its scope to study and report with greater detail on the front-end of the criminal justice system. It is also stated that new reporting requirements will enable OPM CJPPD to help the state address racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system, lower crime, reduce victims, and avoid unnecessary incarcerations.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Stop Solitary CT, Steering Committee Member, Joseph Gaylin; supports this bill stating that data related to isolated confinement is largely hidden from public view and formatted to impede effective data analysis. It is also stated that this bill will increase accessibility and clarity of data and will empower the state to make better policy decisions.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Stated.

Reported by: Rose Hirschl

Date: April 7, 2021