

# Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-1504  
AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PROSECUTION OF CRIMES  
**Title:** AND THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS.  
**Vote Date:** 4/7/2025  
**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute  
**PH Date:** 3/17/2025  
**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Judiciary Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

To enhance public safety and provide certain protections for Connecticut residents, this bill would adopt various measures to address these areas of public concern.

## **SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:**

The substitute language strikes the first, fifth, and sixth sections, leaving only the sections regarding crimes related to firearms and the firearms tracing task force.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

**John R. DelBarba, Assistant Legal Counsel, Office of Public Defender (OCPD):** They testified in opposition to this bill. OCPD believes that this bill will have unintended consequences and will have the exact opposite of safety and protection of victims. They strongly oppose Sections 1, 5, and 6, respectfully asking for them to be stricken from the bill. Additionally, they take no position on Sections 2, 3, and 4.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**Mary Ann Turner:** She testified in support of this bill. She stated that this bill will restore law and order in our state. She believes that allowing police to pursue criminals ensures dangerous individuals do not escape accountability. She believes we can better support law enforcement by requiring arrests, gun seizures and providing the resources needed to

combat gun trafficking. She also believes that a person who is required to post a \$500,000 bond or higher is a substantial risk to the public; that GPS monitoring is common-sense; and that offenders should be required to serve 85% of their sentence to ensure victims are not revictimized by an early release that prioritizes criminals over community.

**Susan Bradford**  
**Jamie Leclerc**

**John Dolan**  
**Mark Lloret**

**David Ioime**  
**Stephen Sant Andrea**

**C. Marcella Kurowski**  
**Michele Vannelli**

The above individuals testified in support of this bill. They believe Connecticut's residents need to be a priority that this bill will increase public safety. They believe law enforcement needs to be able to apprehend criminals and there needs to be more consequences for those who commit the crimes and wish to do harm to others.

#### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Deborah Brody, RN:** She testified in opposition to this bill. Regarding Section 1, she stated that police chases present a danger to the public and do not prevent crime; they don't keep families safe or deter crime. Regarding Section 6, she stated that incarceration is a poor solution to harmful behavior. She believes mandatory sentencing is not justice and opposes the requirement of 85% of sentence being served.

**Christopher Dukes, President, and Co-Founder American Justice Project:** He testified in opposition of this bill. As written, this bill lacks the protections for a victim who has false accusations made against them.

**Barbara Fair, LCSW, Stop Solitary CT:** She testified that she does not support sections of this bill. She stated that bail and a curfew are not freedom and bail should not be a two-pronged process. Bail is so that a person is free until they are scheduled to return to court.

**Reported by:** Bonnie Gray

**Date:** April 16, 2025