



**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
Office of Chief Public Defender**

**S.B. 473
An Act Concerning a Petition for Release from the Requirement
to Register as a Sexual Offender for Life.**

Judiciary Public Hearing - March 23, 2016

Although not opposed to the general concept of permitting a person to be able to apply for removal from the sex offender registry, the Office of Chief Public Defender requests that this Committee take no action on *S.B. 473, An Act Concerning a Petition for Release From the Requirement to Register as a Sexual Offender For Life*. The bill would permit a person to apply to be released from the sex offender registry requirement if he/she meets certain criteria as contained in the bill.

Currently, the Sentencing Commission is reviewing the sex offender registry statutes in accordance with **Public Act No. 15-2, An Act Concerning a Study of the Sexual Offender Registration System**. Multiple meetings of the group and its subcommittees have taken place and a careful and detailed review is being conducted. P.A. No. 15-2 charges the Connecticut Sentencing Commission to study the sex offender registry including:

- (1) The sentencing of sexual offenders;
- (2) the risk assessment and management of sexual offenders;
- (3) the registration requirements and registry established under chapter 969 of the general statutes;
- (4) the information available to the public and law enforcement regarding sexual offenders;
- (5) the effectiveness of a tiered classification system based on the risk of reoffending;
- (6) methods to reduce and eliminate recidivism by individuals convicted of a sexual offense;

- (7) housing opportunities and obstacles for sexual offender registrants;
- (8) options for post-sentence appeals concerning the registry status of a sexual offender registrant;
- (9) sexual offender management; and
- (10) victim and survivor needs and services and community education.

The Sentencing Commission was required to submit an interim report to the General Assembly no later than February 1, 2016. A final report is required to be submitted to the General Assembly no later than December 15, 2017 and include any legislative recommendations.

Therefore, in regard to any changes, the Office of Chief Public Defender urges this Committee to take no action until the Sentencing Commission has completed its charge and made its recommendations.