

State of Connecticut

DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

OFFICE OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

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Testimony of Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Director Office of Chief Public Defender

Raised Bill No. 491 An Act Concerning Harassment of a Victim of Violent Crime or a Relative of a Victim of Violent Crime

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing - March 31, 2014

The Office of Chief Public Defender would respectfully request that this committee take no action on *Raised Bill No. 491*, *An Act Concerning Harassment of a Victim of Violent Crime or a Relative of a Victim of Violent Crime*. Harassment is already a crime under Connecticut law. A person who violates the harassment statute is already subject to criminal penalties, including incarceration.

The proposed legislation is also duplicative of other statutory offenses such as tampering with a witness and in circumstances where appropriate, obstruction of justice. Therefore, the Office of Chief Public Defender respectfully requests that no action be taken on this proposed bill as such is duplicative and not necessary.