



# State of Connecticut

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES

OFFICE OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER  
30 TRINITY STREET - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

DEBORAH DEL PRETE SULLIVAN  
LEGAL COUNSEL, DIRECTOR  
(860) 509-6405 Telephone  
(860) 509-6495 Fax  
[deborah.d.sullivan@jud.ct.gov](mailto:deborah.d.sullivan@jud.ct.gov)

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

#### *Raised Bill No. 492 An Act Concerning The Reporting Of Suspected Child Abuse By Persons Who Are Directors, Officers Or Employees Of Nonprofit Corporations*

#### Judiciary Committee Public Hearing – March 31, 2014

The Office of Chief Public Defender has concerns in regard to the draft language proposed in *Raised Bill No. 492, An Act Concerning The Reporting Of Suspected Child Abuse By Persons Who Are Directors, Officers Or Employees Of Nonprofit Corporations*. The purpose of the bill is articulated as “[t]o require any director, officer or employee of a nonprofit corporation to report any act of suspected child abuse or neglect committed by any person acting on behalf of such corporation.”

However, the actual draft language of the bill is much broader. The proposed language would require any such director, officer or employee to be a mandated reporter in their private lives. The drafted language goes far beyond the role of the director, officer or employee and the acts and/or conduct of the nonprofit and its employees and volunteers. Understanding, and not opposing the general purpose as stated for the proposed bill, the Office of Chief Public Defender respectfully requests that the overbroad language be narrowed to not include the person’s private life outside the scope of the nonprofit activities and be restricted to the purposes articulated.