



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(860) 757-2270 Fax (860) 757-2215

**Testimony of Deborah J. Fuller
Connecticut Sentencing Commission
Public Hearing on 2013 Legislative Proposals
November 29, 2012**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the Judicial Branch's position on the Sentencing Commission's 2013 Legislative Proposals. Please note that this testimony is based on the summaries of the proposals posted on the Commission's website, and that the Judicial Branch may have additional comments on the fully drafted bills.

Juvenile Sentence Reconsideration Proposal:

The Judicial Branch does not have a position on this proposal.

Miller v. Alabama Proposal:

Recognizing that Connecticut's current Murder with Special Circumstances statute (formerly the capital felony statute) has been rendered unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Miller v. Alabama*, the Judicial Branch supports amending the general statutes to bring them in line with that decision. However, we do not have a position on the particular method of addressing the issue.

Certificates of Rehabilitation Proposal:

The Judicial Branch will take a careful look at the fully drafted language of this bill to determine if we should continue to oppose the provision requiring the court to entertain applications for Certificates of Rehabilitation. Based on the summary provided, it appears that the new language may provide additional protections that could alleviate the concerns that the Branch expressed in its testimony on S.B. 453, *AAC Certificates of Relief from Barriers Resulting from Conviction of a Crime*.

The Judicial Branch supports the proposal to remove barriers for hairdresser and barber licenses, as the current prohibition does not appear to serve a public safety concern.

Inmate Visitation Proposal:

The Judicial Branch does not have a position on this proposal.