



## ***An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission with Respect to the Sex Offender Registry***

*Follows best practices in risk management, protects public safety, strengthens and focuses the registry on high-risk offenders*

- *Special Act 15-2* required the Connecticut Sentencing Commission to study sex offender sentencing, registration and the management system and provide recommendations to the Governor and Connecticut General Assembly. This proposal is the result of two years of rigorous study and discussions with multiple stakeholders – academics, practitioners, victim advocates, as well as state and national experts on this subject.
- The key aspect of this proposal is a move from an offense-based registry to a risk-based registry focused on the risk, needs and responsivity model supported by research and evidence-based practices.
- The categories of sex offenders who must register with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection based on the crime for which they were convicted would remain the same. However, the length of time on the registry, the compliance requirements and whether it is a public or a law enforcement-only registry would be determined by evaluating the registrant's risk of reoffending.
- Connecticut is one of the very few jurisdictions that currently does not permit individuals to be removed from the registry. The proposal establishes a process to petition the Superior Court for removal from the registry. The removal process would be prospective only except for some individuals who were retroactively placed on the registry at the time the registry became effective (i.e., offenders who were convicted prior to January 1, 1998, unaware that they would be subject to registration requirements) would be eligible to petition the court for removal.
- The proposal would allow for more focused monitoring and management of individuals who have engaged in sexual violence and at the same time provide mechanisms for those who have rehabilitated themselves to more fully reintegrate into their communities.