

WRITTEN TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 875, AN ACT CONCERNING THE RISK OF HOMELESSNESS FOR THOSE RELEASED FROM THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.

Dear Senator Lopes, Representative McGee, Representative Smith, Senator Anwar, Representative Polletta, Senator Cicarella, and esteemed members of the Housing Committee:

My name is Andrew Osmun. I am a resident of New Haven and am writing to testify in support of Senate Bill 875.

As a parent of an individual with a criminal record, I am aware of the challenges facing individuals when they are released from prison in finding housing. So many who lack family support wind up homeless.

Every day I drive in New Haven I am passing between 4-8 individuals holding signs saying "Homeless, Please Help."

I recognize they indeed may not be homeless, but knowing the encampments, many indeed are.

The likelihood of not finding housing is much more severe if the individual released is also required to register as someone convicted of crimes of a sexual nature.

Therefore I urge the Housing Committee to support and pass SB 875.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.