



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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DEPUTY SPEAKER

MEMBER

AGING COMMITTEE
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE & LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

March 25, 2021

The Honorable Sen. Catherine Osten and Rep. Toni Walker
Appropriations Committee Co-Chairs Legislative Office Building

Dear Co-Chairs of Appropriations Committee,

I am testifying in support of HB-5088, An Act Requiring the Payment of a Reward to Patricia "Pidgie" D'Allesio. In 1953, a serial predator assaulted and murdered, eleven-year-old, Irene Fiedorowicz. The story is horrific, but Patricia D'Allesio, one of his victims, was brave enough to testify and help solve the murder case. Her courage and her work should have been recognized. There was a 3,000-dollar reward set for this case by Governor John Davis Lodge, but despite her help, she was not given the reward. Instead, Chief Justice Baldwin told her that she should be satisfied with having done her civic duty.

This bill is more than a simple reward. It is an acknowledgment of the bravery and help that Patricia D'Allesio was able to give to our community. Her act of public service must be recognized and appreciated. It is unfair and it is shameful that it has taken over sixty years for this state to pay her due. We have a chance to right the wrongs of the past. We have a chance to express our gratitude and give Patricia D'Allesio the reward that she deserves and should have gotten sooner.

I urge you to support HB-5088 and allow the state of Connecticut to formally apologize and appreciate Patricia D'Allesio.

Sincerely,

Edwin Vargas
State Representative