

# OPPOSE SB 445, SECTION 3

AN ACT CONCERNING A JOBS PROGRAM FOR YOUTH IMPACTED BY THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM, A REVIEW OF PROBATION VIOLATIONS, STATE-WIDE EXPANSION OF TRUANCY CLINICS AND PERMITTING PEACE OFFICERS TO STOP A MOTOR VEHICLE SOLELY BECAUSE THE DRIVER OR A PASSENGER IS USING CANNABIS.

## ? WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

**Section 1:** Requires a review of and report concerning probation violations

**Section 2:** Establishes a jobs program for youth impacted by the youth legal system

**Section 3:** Requires and fund a state-wide expansion of the truancy clinic program

## ? WHAT SECTION DOES CTJA SUPPORT?

**Section 1:** We suggest that young people and families be met about their experience with probation. It is always a good idea to review data to better understand the effectiveness of having a child on probation and explore other ways to properly support youth.

**Section 2:** Expansion of employment opportunities for young people who have been impacted by the legal system is a great idea and part of a successful reentry. Young people should be consulted on how to build this program to be effective and increase impact.

## ? WHAT SECTION DOES CTJA OPPOSE?

### Section 3:

- **The answer to children being absent from school is not court involvement** as this bill suggests. Instead of truancy clinics CT should institute a model like the Hartford Welcome Re-Entry Center and the model of Credible Messengers at Connecticut Junior Republic in Waterbury
- Requiring a child to come to a court date when they are already having trouble attending school is a **set up for failure**. When a child is struggling with school attendance, being met with a citation to appear in court, instead of a supportive person who understands the situation is a recipe for disaster.
- A probate court judge may not have the particular skill set to work with young people. **A credible messenger would**
- This **burdens parents** that have to work and have child care needs with an appearance in court, when there are other ways to handle this