



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**SENTENCING COMMISSION**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

**GOVERNOR SIGNS SENTENCING COMMISSION JUVENILE JUSTICE  
LEGISLATION**

(HARTFORD, CT)-Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed into law legislation that brings Connecticut into compliance with the United States' Supreme Court's decisions in *Miller v. Alabama* and *Graham v. Florida*. The legislation is largely based on the Commission's 2012 juvenile justice recommendation.

"This legislation is a tremendous example of the Sentencing Commission's value to state criminal justice policy. It was crafted over several years with sustained deliberation from all members of the system, including the public and our state legislature." Acting Executive Director Andrew Clark said. "In the end, what was produced carefully balances all factors involved in sentencing – retribution, deterrence, incapacitation and rehabilitation - and, in doing so, is both fair and just," said Mr. Clark.

The Commission found it necessary to look into changing Connecticut's juvenile sentencing and parole laws following the release of the *Miller* decision in 2012.

"The Act will bring Connecticut into accord with the U.S. and Connecticut Supreme Court's 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment jurisprudence on juvenile sentencing and help ensure that juvenile offenders are simultaneously held accountable and provided with an adequate opportunity to become productive members of society," said Justice David M. Borden, chair of the Commission. "Senate Bill 796 represents a significant step toward the goal of providing a more cost-effective system of sentencing while promoting public safety. "

The legislation is Public Act 15-84, *An Act Concerning Lengthy Sentences For Crimes Committed By A Child Or Youth And the Sentencing Of A Child Or Youth Convicted Of Certain Felony Offenses*.

For more information visit our website at [www.ct.gov/ctsc](http://www.ct.gov/ctsc)

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Connecticut Sentencing Commission