

Connecticut General Assembly



PCSW

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

The State's leading force for women's equality

# Official Statement

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**FROM:** Teresa Younger, Executive Director

**DATE:** May 20, 2013

**RE:** H.B. 6641: AN ACT CONCERNING THE SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A PERSON WHO IS PHYSICALLY HELPLESS OR WHOSE ABILITY TO CONSENT IS OTHERWISE IMPAIRED.

“We applaud the members of both the House and the Senate on their unanimous passing of this important piece of public policy (PA 13-47). In the face of the Court’s ruling last year in the case of a disabled woman who was sexually assaulted, it’s gratifying that compassion prevailed in this Legislature. The burden of proof should never be on the victim, and we’re grateful for our partnership with ConnSACS in their tireless advocacy for victims of sexual assault.”

*About the PCSW: The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women was formed in 1973 under Sec. 46a-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes to study and improve Connecticut women's economic security, health and safety; to promote consideration of qualified women to leadership positions and to work toward the elimination of gender discrimination. As a non-partisan arm of the General Assembly, the agency monitors, critiques and recommends changes to legislation in order to inform public policy, and assesses programs and practices in all State agencies for their effect on the state's women. The PCSW serves as a liaison between government and its diverse constituents, and convenes stakeholders, including the business, non-profit and educational communities, local governments, and the media, in order to promote awareness of women's issues.*