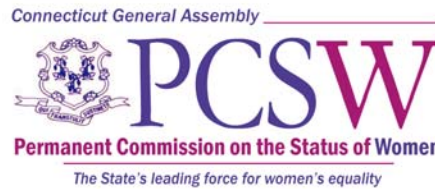


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**Testimony of
The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
Before the
Judiciary Committee
March 12, 2012**

Re: S.B. 247, AAC the Sexual Assault of Persons Whose Ability to Communicate Lack of Consent is Substantially Impaired

Senators Coleman and Kissel, Representative Fox and Hetherington, and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) in response to the introduction of the above referenced bill.

S.B. 247 would provide protections against sexual assault for individuals whose ability to communicate is substantially impaired by a mental or physical condition. PCSW supports all efforts to provide the necessary protections for this vulnerable population. We appreciate your attention to this matter, and look forward to working with you on this issue.