

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, July 7, 2017

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REP. PORTER APPLAUDS GOVERNOR'S SIGNING OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM BILL

*Legislation will remove criminal history restrictions
for licensing of barbers and hairdressers*

State Rep. Robyn Porter, D-New Haven, praised Gov. Dannel P. Malloy's signing of legislation that will promote economic stability and decrease recidivism.

[House Bill 5764](#), "An Act Concerning the Licensing of Barbers and Hairdressers," will exempt Connecticut residents seeking to become barbers or hairdressers in Connecticut from submitting criminal history data as a prerequisite to licensure.

The bill received unanimous support in the state Senate and passed out of the House of Representatives in a 127-22 vote. The legislation will take effect Oct. 1, 2017.

Porter, a co-sponsor of the bill, said this legislation will give people who have a criminal conviction an opportunity to pursue a career as a barber or hairdresser so they can further support their families and the communities in which they live.

"For years, Connecticut has sought to become a national model for criminal justice reform. Through this legislation, Connecticut takes steps toward ensuring everyone has the opportunity to earn a livelihood. House Bill 5764 gives those with criminal convictions a second chance – a second chance at supporting their families, contributing to society and thriving in their personal and professional lives," said Porter, chairwoman of the Labor and Public Employees Committee.

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