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**CONNECTICUT
CONFERENCE OF
MUNICIPALITIES**

900 Chapel St., 9th Floor, New Haven, Connecticut 06510-2807
Phone (203) 498-3000 • Fax (203) 562-6314 • www.com-ct.org

THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

February 26, 2008

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities appreciates the opportunity to testify on the following bill of concern to towns and cities:

CCM supports **H.B. 5326, "An Act Concerning Municipal Electric Costs"**.

This bill would allow municipalities and school districts to receive electric generation services through standard service rather than the more expensive SOLR.

The cost of electricity in Connecticut has gone up almost 60% in Connecticut since 1999.^[1] Towns and cities across the state have been struggling to keep up with rising energy costs.

Standard service would not be a panacea for high energy costs, but it would provide savings to local governments and their property taxpayers. There is no reason that government entities should find themselves in the more expensive SOLR category.

CCM urges you to favorably report this bill as a significant and positive step towards lowering municipal energy costs.

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If you have any questions, please call Gian-Carl Casa or Mike Johnson of CCM, at (203) 498-3000.

^[1] *Electricity Price Trends in Deregulated vs. Regulated States*, Marilyn Showalter, Power in the Public Interest, November 7, 2007.