



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 28, 2008

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on this issue of concern to towns and cities.

H.B. 5621, "An Act Concerning The Right To A Hearing In The Rental Assistance Program And An Appropriation For Housing Assistance."

CCM supports H.B. 5621.

H.B. 5621, would among other things, appropriate funds for the rental assistance program (RAP).

The Rental Assistance Program (RAP) is the major state-funded program for assisting very-low-income families to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Participants find their own housing, including apartments, townhouses, and single-family homes. The participant is free to choose any private rental housing that meets the requirements of the program. RAP certificates are funded through the Department of Social Services (DSS).

CCM urges the committee to ensure that RAP is adequately funded.

CCM asks that the committee to *favorably report H.B. 5621*.

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If you have any questions, please call Donna Hamzy, CCM's Legislative Analyst, or Ron Thomas, CCM's Manager of State and Federal Relations, at (203) 498-3000.