



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
 STATE CAPITOL  
 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

**REPRESENTATIVE AL ADINOLFI**  
 ONE HUNDRED THIRD DISTRICT

235 SORGHUM MILL DRIVE  
 CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT 06410

HOME: (203) 272-9701  
 CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700  
 TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-1423  
 FAX: (860) 240-8700  
 E-MAIL: Al.Adinolfi@housegop.ct.gov

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 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Testimony of**  
**State Representative Alfred Adinolfi**  
**In Support of House Bill 5290**

**Before the Planning and Development Committee**  
**March 3, 2008**

Senator Coleman, Representative Feltman, and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 5290, An Act Increasing the State Grant in Lieu of Taxes for Correctional Facilities.

This legislation is designed to rectify a very unfair allocation of pilot funds for municipalities that house prisons. These local communities are receiving less than their full entitlement; perhaps if we raise the allocation to 120% the end result is that we might receive close to our full entitlement. The samples below are for Cheshire. I am sure that other municipalities are experiencing similar situations.

**1. PILOT State Property:**

F.Y. 07-08 PILOT Payment	\$2,462,655
Full Reimbursement	3,312,230
Difference	849,575

However, for the town of Cheshire, the cost of supporting the prison population continues to go up without adequate re-imbusement. There are many hidden costs however I have listed a few very real and factual examples to the town.

**2. Wastewater Treatment Plant:**

Contracted Prison Flow	350,000 gallons per day
6-month Actual Flow	486,000 gallons per day
12-month Actual Flow	411,000 gallons per day

The prison has consistently sent effluent to the Wastewater Treatment Plant well in excess of their contracted amount. While the Department of Corrections pays the Town for this excess flow, its using capacity that could be allocated for tax generating development and their excess flow could force a possible expansion of the plant since we are nearing capacity. Any expansion could cost millions of dollars.

These numbers do not reflect any additional prison population.

3. Infrastructure impact:

Due to the increased amount of traffic associated with prison employees traveling to and from work, roads in the neighborhood have been impacted necessitating a reconstruction of a portion of Peck Lane for \$500,000, and an additional \$500,000 for the remainder of Peck Lane, and a planned reconstruction of a portion of Marion for \$220,000.

Additionally, we receive periodic complaints from residents in the surrounding residential neighborhood about the increasing volume of traffic and speeding. This has placed an additional strain on our Police Department and has affected the quality of life for those living in these neighborhoods.

4. Fire service:

5 calls for service in 2007

The irony of it all is that the prison in Cheshire originally was a juvenile reform school and many of the local home owners felt safe in their homes. Over the years the prison has expanded and now houses violent felons. We also expect that the prison population might increase. For the reasons that I listed, I urge that this legislation be given favorable consideration. Our prison municipalities are helping to keep our state safe, we owe it to the municipalities to compensate them at a full and proper rate of compensation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.