

Town of Chester
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BILL: HB 5537

TITLE: ACTS CONCERNING THE APPROVAL PROCESS OF UNFUNDED
MANDATES

POSITION: Support

Unfunded mandates place excessive financial burden on the residents of each of the 169 municipalities that make up Connecticut. The impact of such mandates can vary widely from municipality to municipality, whether in direct cost or incremental labor costs that may be more difficult to identify. The so called "benefit" that the unfunded mandate addresses varies greatly as well, depending on the population, service needs, and relevance to the community.

The requirement of a 2/3 majority has the potential to make significant progress in solving the long standing problem of "one size fits all" legislative solutions to perceived problems. By providing for greater consideration of the impact of the unfunded mandate on all 169 towns rather than on a handful of municipalities with specific needs the, entire state will be better served.

Therefore, I am in support of HB 5537.

Thomas E. Marsh
First Selectman, Chester