

Making Great Communities Happen



Connecticut

Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association

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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

S.B. 1033 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TAX CREDIT FOR GREEN BUILDINGS

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association is pleased to support Raised Bill 1033, An Act Establishing a Tax Credit for Green Buildings. This state tax credit, if approved, will establish a much needed benefit for green building projects meeting or exceeding the LEED Gold certification.

CCAPA's mission is to provide leadership in planning, land use and development in order to build strong communities and improve the quality of life in Connecticut. LEED certification is very much in keeping with our mission. LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a program administered by the United State Green Building Council. This is a rating system which encourages sustainable green building and development practices throughout the world.

In Connecticut, many of the LEED-certified buildings have been public- or institutional in nature. LEED certification often involves more challenging and expensive construction costs, in order to achieve the sustainable environmental performance over the long-term. These benefits are substantial, and contribute to human and environmental health, sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Extending the green building revolution to the commercial sector is therefore vital to the economic development in Connecticut, in keeping with our commitments to address climate change and promote smart growth throughout the State. With this tax credit, LEED will be more accessible to private sector development and that, in turn, benefits all of our communities.

CCAPA POSITION

CCAPA supports S.B 1033 and encourages the Committee to report favorably on this bill. CCAPA is available to assist the Committee with this and any other legislation related to planning and municipal management.