



TESTIMONY
OF THE
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

February 3, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee on issues of concern to towns and cities.

Raised Bill 762

“An Act Concerning Mutual Aid or Mobile Support Units and Nuclear Safety Emergency Preparedness Program Plans”

Among other things, Raised Bill 762 would eliminate state reimbursement to local first responders while training them as members of “mobile support units.”

Despite Connecticut's current fiscal crisis the State should seek ways to increase support for first responders – not cut them. Faced with increasing public safety demands and declining federal resources - the State needs to make a stronger commitment to funding local first responders. Municipalities and the State are partners in protecting hometown Connecticut – Raised Bill 762 would compromise that partnership.

CCM urges the committee to (1) amend Raised Bill 762 to protect state reimbursement to local first responders, or (2) take *no action* on Raised Bill 762.



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