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THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 16, 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 provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM supports Raised Bill 6655 "An Act Concerning Authorization of State Grant Commitments for School Building Projects and Concerning Changes to the Statutes Concerning School Building Projects".

This bill would fund certain school construction projects (1) listed on the Department of Education's School Construction Priority List, (2) seeking first reauthorization for which the scope has changed, and (3) seeking second reauthorization for which the scope has changed.

School construction projects lay the foundation for our education system. It is important, even in these tough fiscal times, that such projects continue forward. Not only do they ensure quality schools for our children, but they also mean jobs and a stimulus to the economy.

CCM urges the committee to **favorably report** this bill.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email kweaver@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3026.