



**TESTIMONY**  
of the  
**CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES**  
to the  
**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

February 9, 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 has concerns that any of the following bills might create more burden and increase costs to municipalities.** While the intent of these bills seems to provide additional authority to municipal animal control officers and greater protection for certain animals, CCM is concerned that any of these bills may in the end (1) *increase the workload of local animal control officers* and (2) *result in additional municipal costs to enforce.*

- **Raised Senate Bill 784 "An Act Concerning Roaming Livestock and Public Safety"** would provide local animal control officers the authority to take custody of certain roaming livestock, fine the owner of such animals, and sell or adopt out such animals if the owner does not reclaim them.
- **Proposed House Bill 5798 "An Act Prohibiting the Unreasonable Confinement and Tethering of Dogs"** would more clearly define and prohibit the unreasonable confinement and tethering of dogs.
- **Proposed House Bill 5807 "An Act Concerning Abandoned Animals"** would require notification be provided to local animal control officers and the Department of Agriculture, when necessary, in the event that in the process of an eviction there is reason to believe that animal housed within may be abandoned.
- **Proposed House Bill 5811 "An Act Concerning Battery Cages and Egg Laying Hens"** would require that egg-laying hens are not housed in an inhumane manner.

If these bills are to move forward, CCM urges the committee to carefully craft the language of the bills to ensure that there are **no new unfunded mandates placed on local governments.**

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