



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY  
COMMITTEE  
February 10, 2009**

*Leonard H. Guercia, Jr., Operations Branch Chief /Office of Public Health Preparedness  
860-509-8100*

**Senate Bill 787 - An Act Concerning the International Emergency Management  
Assistance Compact**

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**The Department of Public Health supports Senate Bill 787.**

The International Emergency Management Assistance Compact provides for the process of planning mechanisms among jurisdictional agencies responsible for mutual cooperation.

This bill would provide for the possibility of mutual assistance among the jurisdictions entering into this compact, which include the New England States and the Eastern Provinces of Canada, in managing any emergency or disaster when the affected jurisdiction or jurisdictions ask for assistance. Participating jurisdictions are not required to assist, but can provide resources if able to.

This bill, along with Senate Joint Resolution 13 of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, authorizes Connecticut's membership in the International Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

This bill would provide for the possibility of mutual assistance among the jurisdictions entering into the compact in managing any emergency or disaster when the affected jurisdiction or jurisdictions request assistance, and provide for the most effective utilization of resources of the participating jurisdictions that are essential to the safety, care and welfare of the public in the event of any emergency or disaster declared by a party jurisdiction.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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