



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

March 12, 2010

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - 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 Senate Bill 384 *"An Act Concerning Reimbursement to Municipalities for the Cost of Responding to Emergencies in State Parks"*.

The bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to reimburse municipalities for necessary costs incurred by municipal agencies to respond to emergencies in state parks.

Responding to emergencies can be quite costly. In this current economic climate of increasing costs with dwindling revenues, local governments are forced to do more with less. Absent the state establishing its own emergency response system for its facilities, it is only just that it reimburses local governments for costs associated in coming to their assistance.

CCM urges the committee to identify a state funding mechanism for the provision of these services by municipalities and 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.