



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 1, 2010

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 with:

- **Raised Senate Bill 278 "An Act Concerning Truancy,"** which would impose a time requirement as to when a local school district must file written complaints with the Superior Court regarding truant students.

CCM is concerned that during a time of reduced funding and, consequently, reduced resources. This would impose a burden on local and regional boards of education to comply. In addition, CCM is concerned about the legal implications such a mandate might cause if not met.

- **Raised House Bill 5316 "An Act Concerning Adult Education,"** which would dictate how and when students may enroll in adult education.

CCM is concerned that this will tie the hands of local and regional boards of education from making decisions to meet the needs of all students.

Towns and cities have recently suffered a \$100 million cut in state aid in this biennium; the State is currently grappling with a \$500-\$700 million current year deficit; and, upwards of \$3 billion deficits faces us in the out years. In addition, as local costs rise *ECS is expected to be "level-funded" with FY 08-09, and only due to federal ARRA funding.* In this context the State should not entertain any new unfunded mandates on local governments. Municipalities are not receiving enough state funds for what they already must do.

CCM urges the committee to **take no action** on these bills.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver,
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