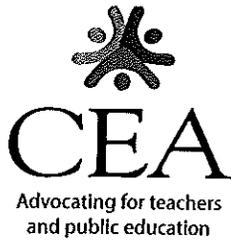


W



**Written Testimony of  
Mark Waxenberg, Director Government Relations  
Connecticut Education Association**

**Connecticut Education  
Association**

*Before the*

***Planning and Development Committee***

***Re: House Bill #5337 'An Act Authorizing Two or More  
Municipalities to Pursue Joint Employee Health Insurance  
Plans***

*March 10, 2010*

Governance  
Philip Apruzzese, President  
Sheila Cohen, Vice President  
Cheryl Prevost, Secretary  
Jeff Leake, Treasurer  
Maureen Honan, NEA Director  
Tom Nicholas, NEA Director

Executive Office  
Dr. John Yrchik  
Executive Director

Government Relations  
Mark Waxenberg, Director  
Capitol Place, Suite 500  
21 Oak Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-8001  
860-525-5641, 800-842-4316  
Fax: 860-725-6362  
www.cea.org

Affiliated with the  
National Education  
Association

The Connecticut Education Association has been a strong proponent of reducing healthcare costs by creating larger "pools" of members. The simple reality is that the biggest cost drivers for municipalities budgets, are healthcare costs and any method to reduce these costs should be explored.

Our studies over the past two years show healthcare costs increasing at an alarming rate. The M.O.R.E. Committee has recognized this and this legislation is in keeping with their recommendation as well.

It is for these reasons that the Connecticut Education Association strongly supports House Bill #5337 'An Act Permitting Two or More Municipalities to Pursue Joint Employee Health Insurance Plans'.

Thank you.