



## TESTIMONY

of the

## CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 10, 2010

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (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 the opportunity to testify on the following bill of interest to towns and cities:

**R.B. 5336, "An Act Concerning Shared Services"**

**R.B. 5383, "An Act Concerning Regional Economic Development"**

CCM supports these bills.

R.B. 5383 would allow the formation of regional economic development districts by regional and other entities, and establish the authority of such districts. The bill would also allow such districts to be eligible for state grants and bond funds.

R.B. 5336 would allow regional economic development districts to enter into shared agreements.

These bills would ensure that regions are able to tap into federal funds that encourage smarter regional economic development.

*CCM urges the committee to favorably report this bill.*

**## ## ##**

If you have any questions, please call Ron Thomas or Gian-Carl Casa of CCM at (203) 498-3000.