



TESTIMONY
OF THE
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
TO THE
REGULATION AND PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

February 23, 2011

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 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee on issues of concern to towns and cities.

HB 6380, "An Act Concerning the Budget for the Biennium Ending Jun 30, 2013"

This bill contains a proposal that would require municipalities to reimburse the State for 100% of the costs associated with overtime activities of Resident State Troopers. This proposal will mean an \$840,000 per year hit to towns and cities. It will have an impact on our smaller communities that use such Troopers.

While local officials know best the impact this recession has had on local service delivery – shifting the cost burden of public safety onto the backs of small-town Connecticut would place a new, hefty bill on the steps of town hall. The added costs to hometowns are real – and in the face of employee layoffs, spending freezes, and service cuts – they would be significant.

Events that have played out on the state, national and international level have required towns to beef-up their public safety presence.

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CCM urges the Subcommittee to continue to provide overtime coverage for Resident State Troopers and ensure that public safety in rural and suburban Connecticut is not compromised. **Now is not the time to increase local costs and endanger the state-local partnership for public safety.**

Thank you.

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If you have any questions, please contact Jim Finley (jfinley@ccm-ct.org) or Ron Thomas (rthomas@ccm-ct.org) or (203) 498-3000.