



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

February 24, 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 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 Bill 1021** *"An Act Concerning Licensed Professional Engineers."*
- **Raised Bill 6400** *"An Streamlining the Department of Environmental Protection's Stormwater General Permitting Process."*

RB 1021 would require the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to create an online database of professional engineers for use by municipalities to certify that economic development projects are in compliance with all requirements for issuance of a state permit by and state agency -- and RB 6400 would allow licensed professional engineers to certify that an applicant for a stormwater permit complies with all applicable state stormwater regulations and applicable local government soil erosion.

CCM's 2011 State Legislative Priorities includes a proposal to implement such a program.

Modeled after the "licensed environmental professional" program established within the Department of Environmental Protection to speed brownfield remediation, these bills would, (1) streamline the process, (2) significantly expedite completion of local economic development projects, and (3) relieve the logjam within state agencies.

Currently, the permit and review process is a laborious and cumbersome bureaucracy. One that is extremely inefficient and time-consuming. In order for Connecticut to compete in a global economy, we have to streamline; look at things differently; and eliminate old ways that hinder progress. It is more efficient and effective to use state employees for oversight purposes, rather than as review and oversight agents.