



*Making Great Communities Happen*

**Connecticut Chapter of the  
American Planning Association  
Government Relation Committee**

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**POSITION STATEMENT**

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – MARCH 4, 2011**

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**BILL:**

- **HB 6108 An Act Concerning Regional Collaboration Incentive Payments**

**OVERVIEW:** This bill would provide incentive payments to municipalities qualifying for state grants or aid where grant amounts required for an educational or municipal service are reduced by an interlocal agreement.

**ANALYSIS:** HB 6108 would provide fiscal incentive for towns to enter into agreements to collaborate on provision of services. The bill provides clear guidance for grant or aid administering agencies to determine eligibility. Fiscal incentives such as proposed will further encourage towns to identify and implement collaborations to reduce the costs of municipal services. This bill furthers one of CCAPA's Regionalization Policy Legislative Recommendations, as described in the attached Policy Statement.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Although this bill would provide important fiscal incentives to promote regionalization efforts, further attention to the organization and funding of regional planning agencies; promotion of a supportive climate for regionalization; and enhancing integration of local, regional, and State planning will be necessary. CCAPA's position and recommendations are detailed in the attached Policy Statement. Re-evaluation of regional planning agency boundaries, as currently underway by the Office of Policy and Management is an important step and CCAPA looks forward to the results of that study, and to working with the Legislature and OPM to identify and implement improvements.

**CCAPA POSITION:** CCAPA strongly supports HB 6108 as an important step to promote better planning and coordination of municipal functions through the encouragement of regional collaboration. We will be pleased to make available expert planners to assist the Committee with refinements or additional provisions on regional issues and opportunities to improve planning and provision of municipal services in Connecticut.