



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

February 14, 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:

H.B. 5052, "An Act Concerning the Jeopardy Collection of Taxes"

H.B. 6260, "An Act Concerning the Jeopardy Collection of Taxes"

CCM is unaware of any widespread problems that would necessitate these bills. Although watered-down from last year, the issue still involves a particular community – and applies a “resolution” to all other 168 other communities.

H.B. 5052 would mandate that tax collectors provide a “reason for and justification” of jeopardy tax collections to property owners. H.B. 6260 would add the local chief elected official to the list of those to receive the written notice and require that such notice be a “detailed explanation”.

CGS Section 12-163 allows that “If, between the assessment date and the tax due date, any tax collector believes that the collection of any tax will be jeopardized by delay, he shall, subject to the provisions of this section, collect such taxes forthwith”.

Tax collectors know their communities well. They want businesses to survive – and thrive. They realize that, through commerce and taxes, property owners contribute to making the community livable.

Regarding a similar bill from last year, the Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) stated that it would have a “revenue impact” on towns and cities.

CCM urges the Committee to take no action on these bills.

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