



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

February 18, 2011

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - 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:

**S.B. 487, "An Act Prohibiting Local Building Standards"**

CCM opposes this bill.

This bill prohibits towns and cities from enacting ordinances that contain building codes that are stronger than that of the State.

Municipalities should be encouraged to develop the tightest of ordinances to ensure public safety. State standards should be the *floor*, not the ceiling.

Frankly, the buck stops with communities. If there is a public safety accident, eyes will not be on the State, but on the mayor/first selectman of a community. It is she/he who will be asked "how did you let this happen?"

CCM urges the Committee to take no action on this bill.

Thank you.

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