



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

March 2, 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 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on the following bill of interest to towns and cities:

**S.B. 64, "An Act Concerning Alternatives to Property Tax"**

Although CCM appreciates the intent behind this proposal -- to provide meaningful property tax reform to residents of towns and cities -- CCM opposes the requirement to "provide a commensurate property tax reduction".

Local officials -- like state elected officials -- are accountable to the public. If the public does not like their actions, they vote them out of office.

CCM urges the Committee to support local revenue diversification proposals contained in the Governor's Budget. The Governor's proposals do not restrict municipal use of the new revenue.

CCM urges the Committee to place a period after "tax" in line 2 of the bill, and delete the remaining language.

## ## ##

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