



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
TRANSPORTATION 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.

- SB 706 "An Act Concerning Municipal Intersection Safety Systems"
SB 822 "An Act Authorizing the Use of Photographic Traffic Enforcement Technology"
HB 6178 "An Act Authorizing the Use of Traffic Cameras by Municipalities"
HB 6179 "An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Operate Intersection Safety Camera Systems"

Similar to proposals from previous legislative sessions -- these four bills would allow towns and cities the option of using automated traffic control signal enforcement devices (i.e. cameras) at local intersections for the purposes of enforcing red light violations.

CCM supports these proposals as reasonable means of making local streets safer. These proposals would also allow those municipalities that decide to install such technology to recoup a portion of the fines collected from such violations.

It is no secret that the fiscal challenges facing both the State and local governments are unprecedented. Simply put, enabling municipalities with the option to use cameras to prevent and enforce traffic violations would (1) improve the quality of life in our communities, while (2) also producing an untapped revenue source. Such new funding could be used to enhance local infrastructure, improve roadways and public safety.

Allowing Connecticut's local governments this option would be consistent with current law enforcement practices in various other states. According to a recent OLR report, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) cited that "more than 400 communities in about two dozen