

Capitol Region Council of Governments

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DATE: MARCH 3, 2011
TO: CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
FROM: MARY GLASSMAN, CHAIRMAN, CRCOG POLICY BOARD
LYLE D. WRAY, PHD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: SENATE BILL NO. 1059, AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON ENHANCING AGENCY
OUTCOMES

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is a regional planning organization representing the City of Hartford and the 29 surrounding municipalities. We have served the region for over 30 years and helped them gain significant efficiencies in the spending of taxpayer dollars through cooperative purchasing and other regional service sharing initiatives.

We would like to remind the committee of our very successful efforts in the area of cooperative purchasing which have been helping municipalities since 1968. We have 84 members of the Capitol Region Purchasing Council today and are very proud of the savings and efficiencies we offer through our annual bids, energy consortiums, job order contracting program (EZIQC), and our cooperative approaches to e-Government. We use innovative methods and technology such as reverse auction and secure online competitive solicitations. Last year alone we saved our participating communities over \$3.2 million through our cooperative purchasing programs. This is all in addition to our activities in community planning and transportation which help communities work together for the betterment of our region.

We are encouraged to see that the state is considering using these very same methods to achieve savings and gain efficiencies for its agencies (Section 297 of SB 1059). We would also like to remind the committee of the piggybacking opportunities that all of our CRCOG and Purchasing Council members enjoy for our programs. Any state agency is also eligible for this piggybacking as a public entity.

We offer our support for Section 297 of this bill and encourage your favorable action.