



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
HOUSING COMMITTEE
February 8, 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.

- **Proposed House Bill 5425** *"An Act Requiring Affordable Housing Developments to Adhere to Principles of Smart Growth."*
- **Proposed House Bill 5077** *"An Act Concerning Smart Growth Principles in Affordable Housing Building Plans."*
- **Proposed House Bill 5781** *"An Act Concerning the Application of Smart Growth Principles to Affordable Housing."*

These proposals present an attempt to ensure that developers create affordable housing that takes into consideration a community's overall welfare, in a way that promotes responsible growth.

Our state's over-reliance on property taxes to fund local governments, K-12 public schools, and other public or "municipal" services must end. Our state's uncoordinated and inefficient land use patterns must be changed. These systems no longer work – local government services aren't adequately and fairly funded, our students are shortchanged and people on fixed incomes are hit hard. The breakdown of these systems results in traffic congestion that plagues communities of all types, development being detoured away from existing infrastructure into previously undeveloped green spaces, and the irretrievable loss of open space lands. It severely hinders thoughtful "responsible" or "smart" growth.

CCM has had a long-standing interest in responsible growth.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate
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