



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT 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:

S.B. 501, "An Act Concerning the Audit of Certain Municipalities"

CCM has concerns with this bill.

This bill would require the state auditors to audit the books and accounts of any municipality that receives more than 35% of its revenue from the state, and has a population over 30,000.

Local officials are willing to work with legislators to find appropriate ways to increase the efficiency and accountability of municipalities – when there is a significant reconfiguration of the property tax system. Absent that, this bill seems duplicative of present municipal audit requirements – audits that are filed with the State.

Attached is a list of accountability measures endorsed by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Burdens and Smart Growth Initiatives – these measures are to be coupled with structural reform of the property tax system.

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

Attachment