



CCM 2012 Testimony

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BANKS COMMITTEE

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The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (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 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

S.B. 360 *"An Act Concerning Recommendations of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority Task Force."*

This bill would, among other things, require the judicial branch to create an information piece regarding community-based resources to parties involved in foreclosure mediation AND require municipalities to include such information in bills for public sewer, water services or property taxes.

CCM appreciates the intent behind this proposal -- to ensure that homeowners facing foreclosure have information available to assist them through the difficult process. However, section 5 would place an unfunded and administrative burden on local governments by requiring them to mail out these information pieces.

What truly would be helpful to homeowners facing foreclosure, would be providing easy access to determining which lender owns their mortgage. This is made more difficult by the fact that some mortgages are not recorded in local land records.

CCM urges the Committee *amend* SB 360 by deleting the municipal mandate found in Section 5, and adding the requirement that all mortgage assignments be recorded in municipal land records.

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If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski (mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org), Ron Thomas (rthomas@ccm-ct.org) or Donna Hamzy (dhamzy@ccm-ct.org) of CCM via phone (203) 498-3000.