



CCM 2012 Testimony

900 CHAPEL STREET, 9th FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-2807 PHONE (203) 498-3000 FAX (203) 582-6314

COMMERCE COMMITTEE

March 15, 2012

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.

CCM supports House Bill 5470 "*An Act Supporting Economic Development in an Urban Central Business District.*"

Would allow local zoning commissions, in municipalities with populations of 100,000 or more, to restrict to the location of any state agency to such municipality's central business district.

This proposal fits in well with the state's smart growth strategy in that it would help ensure that development occurs in areas where infrastructure already exists. Initiatives such as this preserve open space, watersheds, environmental habitats and agricultural land, while accommodating new growth in compact forms, in a manner that: de-emphasizes automobile dependency; integrates the new growth into existing communities; creates a diversity of affordable housing near employment centers; and provides job opportunities for people of all ages and income levels.

CCM urges the committee to favorably report the bill.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate of CCM
via email dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 946-3783.