



# CCM 2012 Testimony

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## **COMMERCE 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.

CCM supports House Bill 5343 "*An Act Concerning Economic Development Through Streamlined and Improved Brownfield Remediation Programs.*"

HB 5343 would require the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to conduct a report to perform an in-depth analysis of the state's Brownfield remediation and development programs and recommend changes to such programs.

Brownfield remediation and redevelopment are key to putting back into use, and back on the property tax rolls, blighted and contaminated properties. Further, programs to support such efforts eases the pressure to use "green" spaces as an alternative. Brownfield remediation is an important part of Connecticut's efforts to 1) spur development in places where the infrastructure to support it already exists, 2) improve blighted areas, 3) limit sprawl and preserve open space in outlying areas, and 4) clean up our environment.

Incentives must be provided to make rehabilitating Brownfields the "path of least resistance."

CCM urges you to favorably report HB 5343.



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