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Testimony of  
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Submitted to Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee  
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**SB 25 AN ACT AUTHORIZING AND ADJUSTING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER PURPOSES**

**STRONG SUPPORT**

*Conn-NAHRO is the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, the Connecticut Chapter represents over 112 Connecticut housing authorities and other non-profit and community development member agencies. Member agencies have the responsibility of effectively managing or administering housing for 150,000 families/individuals and over 62,000 housing units in Connecticut.*

Speaking on behalf of Conn-NAHRO's Executive Board and member agencies, I would like to express our overwhelming support for S.B. 25's provisions that provide bonding for housing revitalization, affordable housing and elderly congregate housing.

The Governor's proposal to provide \$30 million in FY 13 as the start of a ten year commitment of \$300 million to preserve and upgrade state-sponsored housing represents the first significant investment in affordable housing available to the state financed housing portfolio since 1989 when Governor Bill O'Neill proposed a capital budget that included \$125 million for housing.

Within the State housing portfolio, there are 13,298 affordable units of State public housing that requires significant capital improvements that are not being funded. The capital improvements in the portfolio range from repairs to place vacant units back on line to redevelopment of a property. The alternative expenditure to replace this current affordable housing stock through new development efforts would exceed \$3 billion.

If the state housing portfolio is provided adequate capital funding it will help stabilize affordable rents to the poorest of our renters, get existing units back online that have been vacant and preserve our desperately needed affordable housing stock.

Conn-NAHRO strongly supports the preservation of the state housing portfolio and its membership urge passage of SB 25.