



# CCM 2012 Testimony

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## ***GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS***

March 2, 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.

### **House Bill 5024 "An Act Concerning Voting Rights"**

This bill would make changes to the current voter registration laws to allow for election day and online voter registration.

#### **Election Day Registration**

While CCM understands the genesis behind this proposal - to increase voter participation - *we have concerns about the fiscal impact to local governments to implement.* Registrars' of Voters have indicated that there would be a need for additional staffing and resources on election day, the busiest day of the year for their office, in order to meet this new initiative.

- CCM urges the committee to provide towns and cities with the financial resources to implement this proposal.

#### **Online Voter Registration**

It is our understanding that an *online voter registration system could reduce costs associated with voter registration.* Estimates from other states indicate the costs associated with online registration averaging around 3-4 cents per person, whereas the cost for paper registration can be around 85 cents per person.

CCM urges the committee to ensure that **careful consideration is given to how such a new system could be implemented with the least administrative or fiscal impact to local governments before taking any action on this bill.**



If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email [kweaver@ccm-ct.org](mailto:kweaver@ccm-ct.org) or via phone (203) 710-9525.