



March 12, 2012

TO: Government Administration and Elections Committee  
FROM: Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate  
RE: Bills of Concern to Towns and Cities

**BILLS ON YOUR MEETING AGENDA FOR:**  
**Monday, March 12, 2012**

CCM SUPPORTS the following bills scheduled for action and urges the committee to make the recommended changes –and- favorably report them:

**SB 27** **GOVERNMENTAL DOCUMENTS ONLINE**

Agenda Item #2

This bill is the first step in transitioning all state agency regulations, and public notices, to be published online. CCM supports this more efficient and cost effective mechanism for making notice of and hosting final versions of state regulations. Providing such important information online makes it more widely accessible to people across the state and elsewhere, as well as in a timelier manner

While considering this proposal, CCM urges you to also advance legislation that would provide a significant savings to local governments by *modifying the requirements for posting legal notices in newspapers to allow municipalities the ability to publish notice of the availability of a particular document on their website, instead of having to publish the entire document.*

**SB 218**

Agenda Item #6

**CONSOLIDATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARIES**

This bill would allow municipalities with (a) a population of 20,000 or less, or, (b) a voting district of 20,000 or less to designate polling places other than those used during a general election - allowing local registrars of voters to achieve a level of savings by consolidating polling places, when appropriate. It is estimated that a savings in excess of \$10,000 could be achieved for a small town.

This concept is supported by municipalities across the state of varying sizes and location, therefore CCM urges the following changes to the bill:

- The population threshold of 20,000 or less would exclude many medium sized towns from taking advantage of this cost saving measure. At a time when all levels of government are seeking ways to reduce costs, while not hampering services to constituents, *CCM*

*urges raising the municipal population threshold to populations of 60,000 or less.*

- The decision to consolidate polling places can have a large impact on voters and should be carefully considered, therefore *CCM urges requiring the plan to be submitted to, and approved by, the Secretary of the State* – similar to what is currently done for ballot purchasing.

CCM urges you to carefully consider the impacts these bills would have on local residential and business property taxpayers before taking any action on them.

## ## ##

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [kweaver@CCM-ct.org](mailto:kweaver@CCM-ct.org) or via phone (203) 710-9525

**CCM SURVEY RESULTS**  
**Cost of Legal Notices to Towns and Cities**

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Cost of Legal Notices*</u>	
	<u>FY 08-09 (Actual)</u>	<u>FY 09-10 (Actual)</u>
Andover		\$ 5,000
Ansonia	\$ 24,319	
Ashford		\$ 9,410
Barkhamsted	\$ 2,056	\$ 4,500
Berlin	\$ 26,337	\$ 26,200
Bethany	\$ 8,668	\$ 1,800
Bloomfield		\$ 11,000
Branford	\$ 1,850	\$ 25,809
Bristol	\$ 34,400	
Brookfield		\$ 33,564
Brooklyn		\$ 28,975
Burlington	\$ 95	\$ 800
Cannan		\$ 3,500
Canton	\$ 7,572	\$ 8,700
Cheshire	\$ 268	
Chester		\$ 4,750
Clinton	\$ 21,000	
Colchester	\$ 9,828	\$ 10,175
Colebrook	\$ 2,000	
Columbia		\$ 10,648
Coventry	\$ 15,556	\$ 18,500
Darien	\$ 7,000	
Durham	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,750
East Granby	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,971
East Hampton	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
East Hartford		\$ 2,500
East Hartford	\$ 12,700	
East Haven	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000
East Lyme		\$ 24,000
Eastford	\$ 1,267	
Ellington	\$ 35,770	\$ 25,050
Enfield	\$ 6,400	\$ 4,000
Fairfield		\$ 700
Farmington	\$ 25,000	
Franklin	\$ 10,854	
Glastonbury	\$ 33,240	
Granby		\$ 5,735
Griswold	\$ 33,033	