



CCM 2012 Testimony

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LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES 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.

Senate Bill 151

"An Act Concerning Additional Requirements for an Employer's Notice to Dispute Certain Care Deemed Reasonable for an Employee Under the Workers' Compensation Act".

CCM **opposes SB 151** as a new unfunded state mandate on towns and cities. This proposal would, among other things, mandate that municipalities obtain written approval from the Workers' Compensation Commissioner before discontinuing, reducing, or denying benefits that are deemed reasonable by a physician -- and would allow employees to choose the course of medical care when employers seek to change claimants' care.

In an identical proposal from last session (*SB 986, File No. 64, 2011*) -- the non-partisan Office of Fiscal Analysis determined that this proposal would be a new "STATE MANDATE" on municipalities that would "result in potential significant impact" on local budgets, "as it increases the number or routine examinations and treatments required to be covered and creates additional requirements for employers [towns and cities] to dispute such treatments".

Local officials are pleading for tangible means of reducing cumbersome mandates on their hometown budgets -- and for state lawmakers to not propose new, unfunded state mandates that would burden already strained local resources, as proposed in SB 151.

CCM urges the Committee to **oppose SB 151**.



If you have any questions, please contact Bob Labanara, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email rlabanara@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3023.