



**Testimony of
Betsy Gara
Executive Director
Connecticut Council of Small Towns
Before the
Environment Committee
March 8, 2013**

RE: HB-6437, AN ACT CONCERNING A MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) *supports* **HB-6437 AN ACT CONCERNING A MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.**

Towns incur significant costs in assisting residents in disposing of old mattresses responsibly. HB-6437 creates a mechanism for reducing municipal costs associated with the disposal of old mattresses by creating a state-wide mattress stewardship program. This program is based on the paint stewardship and e-waste programs that have proven successful in encouraging the responsible disposal of various items and assisting towns with the costs associated with collection and disposal.

HB-6437 will benefit towns, taxpayers and the environment by encouraging the responsible disposal of old mattresses.

COST therefore urges your support for this bill.