



**TESTIMONY
CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SMALL TOWNS
BEFORE THE
ENERGY & PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 7, 2013**

Given the ongoing budgetary pressures on the state and municipalities, Connecticut must act now to relieve some of the burden on our small towns and cities. Unfortunately, efforts to control municipal costs are often frustrated by state mandates that make it almost impossible to reduce budgets or negotiate savings in health care, pension and wage costs.

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) urges **support for Section 5 of SB-807** which eliminates the requirement that municipal water departments file an annual report with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA). This report is required to be filed in a format that is inconsistent with municipal accounting practices, requiring staff to spend time and resources to reformat data. In addition, the report is required to be filed each year before a town has the audited financial data needed to complete the report. This is an unnecessary paperwork requirement that should be repealed.

