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Before the Finance Committee
March 11, 2013

RE: HB-6565, An Act Eliminating a Town's Ability to Phase in Real Property Assessment Decrease

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST), which represents approximately 115 small towns throughout Connecticut, *opposes* **HB-6565, An Act Eliminating a Town's Ability to Phase in a Real Property Assessment Decrease.**

COST opposes this bill because it undermines a municipality's ability to phase in revaluation when there is a drop in the grand list. Many towns are experiencing declines in their grand list due to the challenging economy. Phasing in a decrease in the real property assessment can lessen concerns associated with shifts in property taxes.

COST urges rejection of this bill.

COST is an advocacy organization committed to giving small towns a strong voice in the legislative process. Its members are Connecticut towns with populations of less than 30,000. COST champions the major policy needs and concerns of Connecticut's suburban and rural towns.

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