Connecticut Chapter
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
P. O. Box 93
Rockfall, CT 06481
Phone: 860-508-4896 **www.conn-nahro.org**
Fax: 860-788-2331

February 19, 2013, Legislative Committee on Housing
Written Testimony submitted by
Jeffrey Arn, Vice President of Housing and Legislation
On behalf of the membership of Conn-NAHRO

Conn-NAHRO is the Connecticut chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; its membership is comprised of Public Housing Authorities and other individuals and organizations involved in affordable housing.

HOUSE BILL 5066 AN ACT CONCERNING DRUG-RELATED ACTIVITY BY TENANTS IN PUBLIC HOUSING

Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Butler and members of the Housing Committee:

My name is Jeffrey Arn, I am the current, Vice President of Housing and Legislation for Conn-NAHRO, I am the Executive Director of the Vernon Housing Authority and I also serve as a Commissioner for the Coventry Housing Authority. **I am writing in support of Raised House Bill 5066 which would establish legislation that would mirror the existing one strike policy in federal housing.**

The federal one strike policy was passed into law as part of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 and has been a useful tool to help housing authorities protect our residents. Passage of a similar legislation for State of Connecticut public housing would further enhance PHAs' ability to provide safe, decent and drug free housing to all residents.

This legislation, which should include the option to allow PHAs to consider all credible evidence in making its decision to commence termination of a lease or to allow it to divide a lease to remove the offending party on a case-by-case basis. This is instrumental to providing the best housing for all of its residents through an objective review of the facts.

I urge you on behalf of the residents of our State Public Housing to support this bill and help to protect our tenants. I thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.