



CCM 2013 Testimony

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE March 22, 2013

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 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

HB 6665 "An Act Concerning Review Of traffic Stop Complaints And The Collection Of Traffic Stop Information With Respect To Immigration Status"

The bill would, among other things, prohibit a police officer conducting a traffic stop from asking for identification other than the vehicle operator's driver's license, vehicle registration or proof of insurance. Language specifically prohibits an officer from asking for document regarding either the vehicle operator or any passenger's immigration status. It would also require that a copy of the traffic statistic form be provided to the person being stopped.

Police officers routinely engage in questions with vehicle operators and passengers, and in so doing may solicit particular documents from these individuals to ensure they are not criminals with an outstanding arrest warrant. HB 6665 will compromise public safety by removing an officer's ability to ask for that information.

Additionally, HB 6665 imposes an undue burden on municipalities by requiring that a copy of the traffic statistic form be provided to the person being stopped. This would be contrary to current practice which submits the form electronically, and no paper form is generated. Requiring a separate paper form will be costly and counterproductive to recent efforts made by the racial Profiling Advisory Board which recommend electronic submission of such reports.

CCM urges the Committee to OPPOSE HB 6665.



If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Legislative Associate of CCM via email mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 500-7556.