



CCM 2013 Testimony

900 CHAPEL STREET, 9th FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-2807 PHONE (203) 498-3000 FAX (203) 562-0314

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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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.

S.B. 1049, "An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Regulate Blighted Commercial Properties"

CCM supports this bill.

SB 1049 would be a tool towns and cities could use to curb blight and make communities more livable. It would allow communities to assume a greater role in ensuring the health and safety of residents.

CCM urges the committee to amend the bill to clear up language from last year's blight bill, PA 12-146, that allowed the State to keep the \$250 per day assessment for willful violations of local blight ordinances. Towns and cities do all the work: conducting inspections, initiating court cases, etc. Towns should reap the benefit from assessments placed on violators.

CCM urges the Committee to amend SB 1049, then favorably report it.

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If you have any questions, please contact Ron Thomas at rthomas@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3000.