

**John Elsesser  
Town Manager  
Town of Coventry, CT  
Testimony  
Before the Planning & Development Committee  
March 18, 2013**

**Testimony in support of:**

- **SB-1112 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICES BY MUNICIPALITIES**

SB-1112 would allow towns to post legal notices and other required notices on the town's website rather than in the newspaper. Towns are required by law to publish numerous legal notices in newspapers. Unfortunately, advertising prices have increased dramatically, placing a fiscal burden on Connecticut's small towns. In addition, many small town newspapers have gone out of business, requiring towns to publish notices in the more expensive metropolitan newspapers.

Allowing towns with the staff and Internet capabilities to post such notices on their websites will help reduce this fiscal burden while ensuring that the public has access to such notices. We are hearing from towns that it could save them a significant amount of money annually. Also, for the vast majority of people, posting legal notices on the Internet will allow greater access to this information. I therefore **strongly support SB-1112.**