



CCM 2013 Testimony

900 CHAPEL STREET, 9th FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-2807 PHONE (203) 498-3000 FAX (203) 562-6314

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TRANSPORTATION 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.

CCM supports: *Senate Bill 166 An Act Increasing Fines for the Unauthorized Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles on Municipal or Private Property Without the Written Permission of the Land Owner* and *Senate Bill 190 An Act Concerning Municipal Penalties for Retrieval of a Dirt Bike and Establishing a Title for Dirt Bike Ownership.*

SB 166 would double any fine for a violation of the prohibition against the operation of an all-terrain vehicle on municipal or private land without the written permission of the municipality or the owner of such land. CCM believes that by allowing for an increase in fines this would help to stem the illegal use of ATV's on municipal and private property and limit further destruction of these lands and ensure they remain accessible and usable to all taxpayers.

SB 190 would permit a municipality to prescribe a penalty in the range of \$250-\$2000 for retrieval of a dirt bike confiscated due to a violation of a municipal regulation or ordinance. Additionally the bill would establish a title system for dirt bike ownership so such ownership can be tracked. CCM believes that the increased fine structure in SB 190 would assist in dissuading people from illegally using of dirt bikes or all terrain vehicles on municipal and private property. The ability to levy fines up to \$2000 would also allow towns and cities to recover costs associated with the enforcement of local laws.

CCM strongly supports *SB 166* and *SB 190* and urges it favorable consideration of these measures by the committee.

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If you have any questions, please contact M. Randall Collins Jr., Senior Legislative Associate for CCM via email rcollins@ccm-ct.org or via phone (860) 707-6446.