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State of Connecticut

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*Testimony by Representative Arthur J. O'Neill
Before the Planning and Development Committee
On House Bill 5719
March 1, 2013*

Good morning Chairmen Cassano and Rojas, Ranking Members Fasano and Aman, and members of the Planning and Development Committee. I am Representative O'Neill and I would like to thank this committee for letting me present my testimony in support of House Bill 5719, AN ACT PERMITTING MUNICIPALITIES TO SHARE RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS.

The purpose of this bill is to eliminate a requirement that towns that seek to cooperate with each other to hire a Resident State Trooper be required to be contiguous. This is an unnecessary impediment to joint efforts by municipalities to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

This proposal arose as a result of a request for help from the First Selectman of Roxbury, Barbara Henry, who has been stymied in her attempt to form a joint agreement for a Resident State Trooper with a nearby town.

I believe that we should remove any unnecessary barriers to voluntary mutual cooperation between municipalities.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on House Bills 5719.

Arthur J. O'Neill
State Representative