

**TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO THE HOUSING COMMITTEE
MARCH 4, 2014**

*Eric Chatman, President-Executive Director
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Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Butler and members of the Housing Committee, my name is Eric Chatman, President-Executive Director of the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA). On behalf of CHFA, I am providing my comments on legislation before the Housing Committee.

Raised Bill 363 An Act Transferring Funds Deposited In The Community Investment Account To The Department Of Housing

The bill redirects funds distributed from the Community Investment Account (CIA) from the CHFA to the Department of Housing. CHFA supports this legislation.

CIA was established through legislation in 2005 requiring the collection of recording fees for all documents entered into the municipal land records. CIA provided a new opportunity to further the goals of protecting and preserving the character of Connecticut now and into the future by providing funds that assist projects or programs across the four sectors of Affordable Housing, Historic Preservation, Open Space Acquisition, and Agriculture and Dairy.

Since the adoption of the CIA, there is now a new Department of Housing and the Commissioner of Housing is also the Chairwoman of the CHFA Board of Directors making the redirection of these funds appropriate.

Raised Bill 364 An Act Concerning The Department Of Housing's Recommendations For Revisions To The Supportive Housing Initiative Statute

CHFA supports this legislation that expands eligibility for supportive housing initiatives and adds the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Veteran's Affairs to the State Interagency Committee on Supportive Housing. This legislation makes new populations eligible for the resources of housing and support services to individuals and families that are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony to the Housing Committee.