



# CCM 2014 Testimony

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## ***JUDICIARY COMMITTEE***

March 17, 2014

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.

### **HB 5570, "An Act Concerning the Applicability of Statutes of Limitations to Actions Brought by the State or a Political Subdivision of the State"**

The bill would remove a municipality's ability to bring lawsuits against an entity for specific tort, product liability and contract actions after the statute of limitations has run out. **CCM is concerned** that the proposal would abolish the common law doctrine of *nullum tempus occurrit regi* ("no time runs against the king") thereby requiring the State and its political subdivisions to be subject to the same statutes of limitation that are required by private entities.

Most municipalities do not embark upon lengthy and costly legal actions unless there is a legitimate cause to bring such a claim. This proposal, if passed, would prohibit towns and cities from bringing a claim against a party, no matter how long a period of time it has been.

Due to the implementation date of the bill, the proposal may also put municipalities in a situation to prevent them from taking action on existing claims. This would require local officials to initiate an immediate and burdensome evaluation of all claims or potential claims that may be required before HB 5570 takes effect.

For these reasons, CCM asks the Committee to **take no action** on HB 5570.



If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Senior Legislative Associate, at [mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org](mailto:mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org) or (203) 500-7556.