



CCM 2014 Testimony

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

Your source for local government management information www.ccm-ct.org

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

February 19, 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.

SB 72 "An Act Concerning Running Bamboo"

CCM urges the committee to provide mandate relief to municipalities by **amending SB 72 to delete the portion of section (e)** which enables municipalities to authorize a municipal constable, municipal tree warden, zoning enforcement officer or inland wetlands and watercourses enforcement officer to enforce the ban a bamboo plants.

All enforcement of laws regarding the growth of bamboo and the issuance of state fines should fall within the jurisdiction on the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, especially given the fact that any fines issued are payable to the State. This ***de facto mandate*** places undue pressure on municipal officials to deputize municipal employees to enforce this ban and divert them from current pressing duties and responsibilities.

CCM urges the Committee to amend SB 72 before considering this bill for further action.



If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Senior Legislative Associate for CCM, at rcollins@ccm-ct.org or (860) 707-6446.