



CCM 2015 Testimony

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GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

March 9, 2015

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 96% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

SB 1042 "An Act Concerning Municipal Options for Elections"

CCM **supports** SB 1042 as it would, among other things, create an automation process for post-election audits and flexibility in how municipal candidates may have their name listed on the ballot. It would also allow towns the option to move to all 4-year terms, which amends current statute requiring that a municipality have an election every year - eliminating the need to hold an election for only one seat.

As CCM has advocated in other bills, post-election audits are costly and time consuming for local governments. Providing some relief from having to undergo some of the costly and time consuming endeavors during the audit process would benefit local election officials and their budgets. In order to ensure this is properly implemented, CCM asks the Committee to ensure that necessary training and resources be provided to ensure that the new audit system be implemented properly. If there is a fiscal impact, CCM asks the Committee to provide the necessary state funding for the proposal to be properly implemented.

The cost for conducting annual elections for possibly only a select number of seats can be costly. The proposal could provide a significant savings for towns in eliminating that costly and administrative burden.

CCM urges the Committee to favorably report SB 1042.



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