



CCM 2015 Testimony

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 10, 2015

Good Afternoon,

My Name is Lisa Pellegrini, First Selectman for the town of Somers.

I am testifying on behalf of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities, representing over 95% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

HB 6675, "An Act Concerning a Department of Social Services Liaison to Municipal Officials"

This proposal would, among other things, enhance the administration of social service programs by assigning Department of Social Services (DSS) staff to serve as a liaison for municipal officials.

CCM supports HB 6675.

Municipal officials often function as the point of contact to DSS for local residents, and as a result, experience certain challenges when interacting with state assigned caseworkers. HB 6675 is a common sense approach to strengthening Connecticut's local-state partnership and streamlining communication as municipal officials assist residents in acquiring the valuable services provided by DSS. Designating DSS staff as a direct contact for municipal officials would be a cost-effective and prudent management practice toward achieving a shared of ensuring a broad range of services are delivered to the elderly, people with disabilities, families, and individuals who need assistance in maintaining or achieving their full potential for self-direction, self-reliance and independent living.

CCM urges the Committee to favorably report HB 6675.

Thank you.



If you have any questions, please contact Alexandra Beaudoin, Legislative Analyst, at abeaudoin@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3000.