

CCM 2014 Testimony

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LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE

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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 156 towns and cities, representing over 95 percent of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

SB 913, *"An Act Concerning Health Care Data Reporting"*

SB 913 would, among other things, usurp municipal authority and mandate the relay of sensitive, local information regarding municipal healthcare plans, directly to the State Comptroller.

CCM is unaware of any statewide need for such an unprecedented public policy mandate. Although the objective to share information has merit -- CCM has concerns with the overall practicality and the elimination of municipal authority, as proposed in SB 913. Municipal officials are already well-versed purchasers of health care and have the means, resources and ability to compare and contrast local options in the marketplace, including those offered through the State Comptroller's office.

CCM raised concerns with a similar proposal from last session (HB 5451) that would have also granted full access to municipal data. Simply put, local property taxpayers seek budget solutions and relief from state mandated expansions of municipal healthcare plans.

Good intentions can have unintended consequences -- CCM urges the Committee to take no action on SB 913.

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If you have any questions, please contact Robert Labanara, State Relations Manager for CCM, at rlabanara@ccm-ct.org.