Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

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Testimony
submitted to the
Planning and Development Committee
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HB 6953 AN ACT ALLOWING THE BIFURCATION OF MUNICIPAL TAX BILLS

CABE is concerned that an unintended consequence of HB 6953, An Act Allowing the Bifurcation of Municipal Tax Bills, would be to increase the difficulty in adopting an education budget at the local level. Residents of a municipality have an interest in all local services – police, fire, public works, education – and to separate the education budget from the rest of the municipal budget would divide those interest. In addition, as drafted, while the bill provides that a board of education "may, if authorized by a majority vote of the legislative body of the municipality where such board of education is located, set a separate mill rate for the board of education budget", it would appear in fact that the board of education would be required to have a separate budget if authorized by the legislative body.

We appreciate your attention to this issue.