



# CCM 2015 Testimony

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## ***PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY 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 1010 "An Act Concerning Supplemental First Responder Licenses"**

CCM ***opposes*** SB 1010 as it would conflict with the current Emergency Medical Service (EMS) practices and impose a new state mandate on towns and cities.

**SB 1010** would, among other things, (1) create a new supplemental first responder license, and (2) require municipalities to include such new first responders in their Local EMS plan.

Last year, CCM was successful in advocating for changes to the EMS provider process that would provide local officials with the necessary authority to determine their Primary Service Area (PSA) providers. As a result of that successful legislation, towns and cities are now beginning to examine their current EMS practices within their community. This proposal would jeopardize the significant progress made last year by a collaboration of local, regional and state officials.

CCM is unaware of the need for a new supplemental first responder license. In addition, the provisions in this proposal do not afford local officials the ability to offer insight or approval for this license. Simply put, SB 1010 would remove local authority over this important public safety issue.

SB 1010 would also require, if a supplemental license is granted, local EMS plans to be amended to include these providers. Again, CCM opposes this mandate as it removes local authority in the development of the Local EMS plans. Local EMS plans are developed via a collective of municipal officials who know what is best to ensure their residents have the best emergency medical care. Any efforts otherwise could negatively impact the services provided to local residents.

CCM urges the Committee to **oppose** SB 1010.



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