



Testimony
Betsy Gara, Executive Director
Connecticut Council of Small Towns
Before the Education Committee
March 19, 2015

RE: SUPPORT - HB-7022, AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND CHANGES TO THE STATUTES CONCERNING SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST), which represents approximately 115 towns throughout Connecticut, supports HB-7022, which will create a clearinghouse for school building project designs, plans and specifications that will assist towns in moving forward with projects in their communities.

The bill will also authorize municipalities that require school building projects to be approved by town referendum to submit a grant application for a school building project prior to securing local funding. This will allow the town to include the referendum as part of its regular November election, eliminating the need for a special election. This will result in savings for small towns by eliminating costs involved with holding a special election.

COST urges support for HB-7022.