



CCM 2015 Testimony

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ENVIRONMENT 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 and over 96% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

SB 869 "An Act Establishing a Tire Stewardship Program"

CCM supports SB 869. This bill would create a state-wide tire stewardship program approved the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in order to facilitate the disposal and recycling of tires.

It is estimated that in Connecticut more than 3.4 million tires become scrap every year. Many of these tires are illegally dumped in towns and cities, polluting the environment, producing blight and forcing municipalities to shoulder the cost of collecting, transporting and disposing of these tires.

This bill would establish a tire stewardship program, for which the tire producers are responsible for creating and financing, in order to (1) minimize public sector involvement in the management of discarded tires; (2) provide for free, convenient and accessible state-wide opportunities for the receipt of discarded tires; (3) provide for the free collection of discarded tires from municipal transfer stations that accumulate and segregate fewer than one hundred tires, provided any such municipal transfer station requires collection due to space or permit requirements; (4) provide for producer-financed end-of-life management for discarded tires; and (5) provide for suitable storage and transport arrangements for discarded tires, at no cost to such municipality.

Similar to the Mattress and Paint Stewardship and E-Waste programs preceding it, a properly designed Tire Stewardship Program would take the financial and administrative burden of end-of-life disposal for these items off the back of local governments. This is a no-cost proposal for the state and could result in significant statewide savings for municipalities.

CCM urges the Committee to favorably report SB 869.



If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Senior Legislative Associate, at rcollins@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3000