



CCM 2015 Testimony

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JUDICIARY 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 1109 "An Act Concerning Excessive Use of Force"

While well intended, CCM is concerned with, among other things, costs associated with SB 1109.

The bill would, among other things: 1) require additional training on deadly force, retention of records and addressing sensitivity issues; 2) require police officers to wear body cameras; and 3) require law enforcement agencies to develop and implement a plan to recruit minority police officers.

CCM is concerned that the bill does not provide state funding for police departments to purchase body cameras. Purchasing such cameras would be an expensive enterprise for municipalities. As this is relatively new technology for law enforcement, policies and procedures are being developed regarding body cameras worn by police officers. CCM supports efforts to further examine the issue, in particular supports SB 770 (favorably reported out of Public Safety Committee on March 19) which would create a pilot program for a law enforcement agency to develop a plan, procedures and examine the practical nature of officers wearing body cameras.



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