

CCM 2014 Testimony

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LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE

February 26, 2015

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.

HB 6792, "AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND AMBULANCE COMPANIES AND THE DEFINITION OF EMPLOYER UNDER THE CONNECTICUT OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT"

Identical to a proposals from previous years, HB 6792 would, among other things, mandate that local volunteer fire departments are regulated under the State Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA).

This proposal is unnecessary as local volunteer departments currently comply with federal OSHA laws and regulations. Furthermore, this proposed mandate would contradict a recent decision by the Connecticut Supreme Court which confirmed that such departments do not fall within the State's OSHA jurisdiction (see *Mayfield v. Goshen Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.*, 2011).

CCM urges the Committee to **take no action on HB 6792.**

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If you have any questions, please contact Robert Labanara, State Relations Manager of CCM, at rlabanara@ccm-ct.org.