

Joyce Stille
Administrative Officer
Town of Bolton
Public Hearing
Planning & Development Committee
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RELIEF FROM UNFUNDED STATE MANDATES

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB-5096 which would prohibit the adoption of any new unfunded mandate unless approved by a 2/3 vote of the General Assembly:

We appreciate the Committee's responsiveness to our concern regarding unfunded mandates. **This bill will ensure that any proposed unfunded mandates are subject to a thorough review and discussion by the legislature. By requiring a 2/3 vote to adopt any new mandate, these proposals will focus debate on the costs associated with implementing certain legislation.**

We believe this will allow all members of the General Assembly to make an informed decision regarding the cost of legislation to municipalities versus the benefits to our residents.

Given the difficult budgetary climate and the continued pressure on towns to hold the line on costs, I also urge the committee to provide towns with meaningful mandate relief to reduce cost burdens on our municipalities. We must give towns the tools to manage local budgets.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.