



CCM 2015 Testimony

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PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT 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.

HB 6945, "An Act Concerning Attorney Fee Agreements in Municipal Tax Appeals"

CCM supports HB 6945 which would limit contingency fees for attorneys during municipal tax appeal cases.

This bill would assist municipalities avoid numerous and often frivolous property tax assessment appeals especially following a revaluation. CCM would ask the committee to amend the language to limit the contingency fees of not just attorney's fees, but to include any representative, agent or company filing a tax appeal.

Municipalities have seen a large increase in tax assessment appeals, often at the instigation of out of state companies that file hundreds of tax appeals with the intent of getting a municipality to settle rather than expend limited financial resources fighting these frivolous claims in court.

Towns and cities do not seek to limit any residents' ability to appeal their assessment, just seek to limit the filing of numerous costly and frivolous claims.

CCM urges the Committee to support HB 6945.



If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Senior Legislative Associate, at rcollins@ccm-ct.org or (860) 707-6446.