



## ***BANKING COMMITTEE***

March 8, 2016

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

**CCM supports House Bill 5563 "An Act Concerning Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy."**

The bill would establish a residential sustainable energy program in the state for the purpose of financing energy improvements. CCM has supported a similar program for commercial use known as Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE). It has been a beneficial program for both businesses and municipalities throughout the State. This bill would create a similar program for residential properties.

While we are supportive of the concept, CCM asks the Committee to ensure indemnity language, similar to the language that exists in Section 4 of the C-PACE Agreement, also exists in the creation of this proposal between municipalities and the Green Bank.

*"Section 4 - Indemnification.*

*The Green Bank agrees that it will protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Municipality and its officers, agents and employees to the extent of available proceeds derived from the benefit assessments from and against all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, judgments, losses and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or in connection with the actions of the Green Bank's officers, employees and agents under this Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement."*

This provision would be vital to protect the financial interests of the municipality.

CCM urges the Committee **to amend, and then act favorably on HB 5563**



If you have any questions, please contact Alex Beaudoin, Legislative Associate of CCM at [abeaudoin@ccm-ct.org](mailto:abeaudoin@ccm-ct.org) or (860) 670-4021.