



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

March 2, 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.

SB 318, "An Act Concerning Private School Transportation"

CCM **opposes** this bill.

SB 318 would, among other things, require a local or regional board of education to provide transportation for a student enrolled in a nonpublic school to another nonpublic school if the nonpublic school the student was initially enrolled in is closed or merges operations with another nonpublic school. CCM appreciates the efforts the Committee has made to provide reimbursement to municipalities affected by this proposal and establish limits on the distance a board of education would be required to transport students.

While well intended, SB 318 represents a new unfunded school transportation mandate. The deficit mitigation package approved in December 2015 included a cut of \$1.0 million to the Public School Transportation Grant. This bill would exacerbate recent reductions to school transportation funding and likely have a negative impact on the delivery of local services

CCM urges the Committee to **take no action on SB 318.**

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If you have any questions, please contact Daniel C. Giungi, Senior Legislative Associate for CCM, at dgiungi@ccm-ct.org or (203) 498-3023.